TINKLE PRESENTS

The Adventures of Shikari Shambu 2

Shikari ShamBu

By 1983, Tinkle was already on its way to becoming India's most popular children's magazine.

One of our competitors was *Target* published by Living Media. *Target* was a narrative magazine but it also carried a few pages of comics, the most popular being Moochwala by Ajit Ninan. The eponymous Moochwala was a bungling detective with penetrating eyes and a huge moustache.

One day my colleague, Subba Rao burst into the editorial room in great excitement, announcing that he had found an answer to Moochwala. He had been watching the then popular TV serial, *I Love Lucy* and had found it hilarious, mainly because of the misadventures of one of the protagonists, a boastful but cowardly big game hunter.

Subba Rao suggested we create a character along the same lines.

I produced the first story three days later. I don't remember who gave Shikari Shambu his name. I think I named him Shambu to start with, and then Subba Rao suggested the prefix 'Shikari'.

Anant Pai, the editor and Kamala Chandrakant, the fourth member of our editorial team did have some reservations about calling him a shikari as the need for wildlife conservation was just beginning to impinge on public consciousness at that time. However, as the name sounded so good, and as we had decided that Shambu would never actually shoot any animal (we even stopped showing him with a gun after a few episodes), Mr Pai finally put his seal of approval on the name.

Shikari Shambu might never have reached the heights of popularity it did if not for the droll illustrations of the artist, Vasant Halbe. Halbe had been freelancing with us for a few months, and all of us liked his work. He was the unanimous choice when we had to decide on an artist for the series.

When he showed us the character sketches, one of them stood out - a drawing of a shikari with his sola topi pulled down over his eyes.

So was born the great adventurer, Shikari Shambu, a man whose eyes no one has ever seen! The first episode appeared in Tinkle 37 in June 1983.

-Luis Fernandes

All the illustrations in this Collection have been made by Vasant B. Halbe.

Editor: Luis Fernandes **Cover Art:** Yatish Kumar Lokesh, Liju
Cover Design: Arjun Gupte

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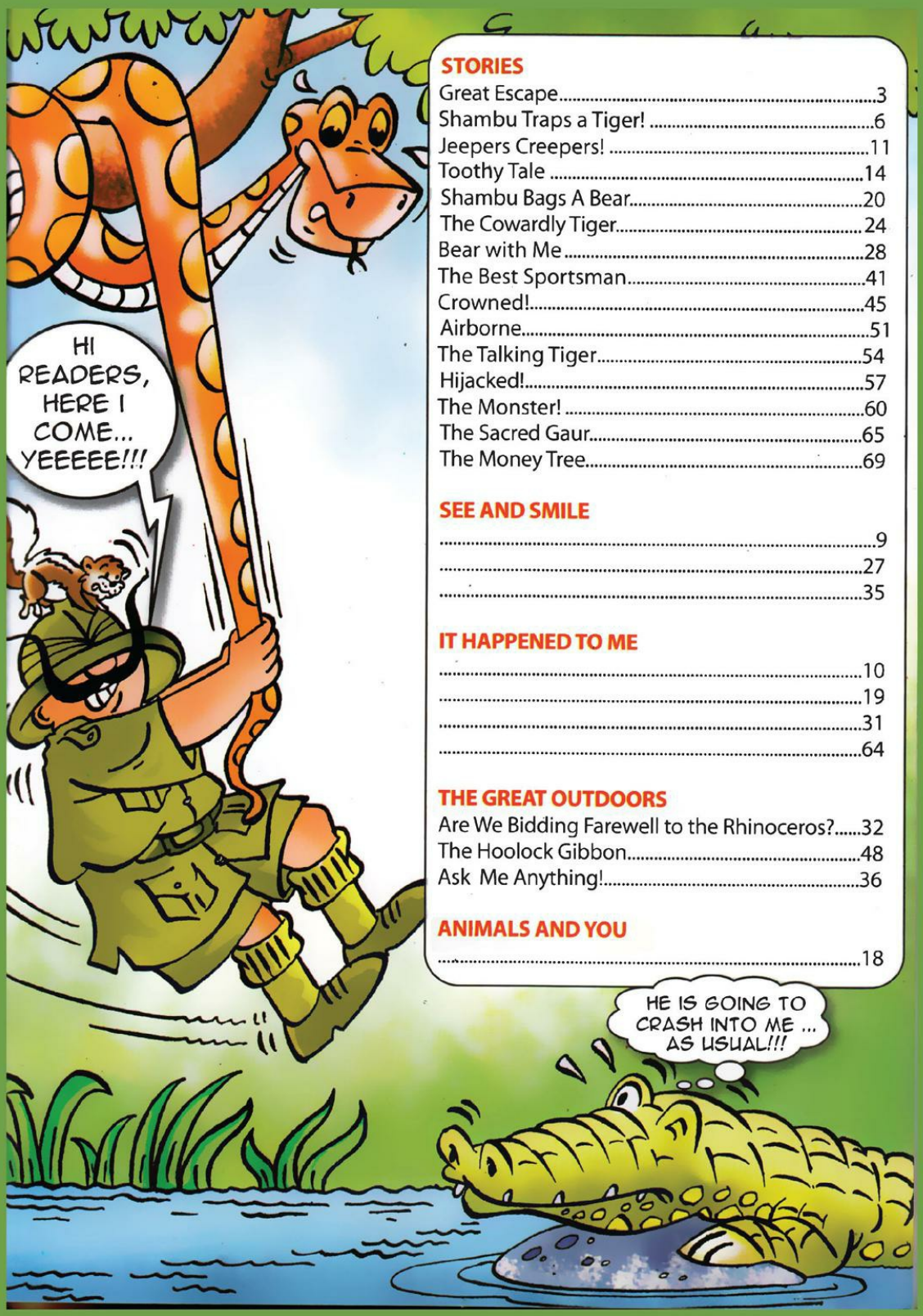

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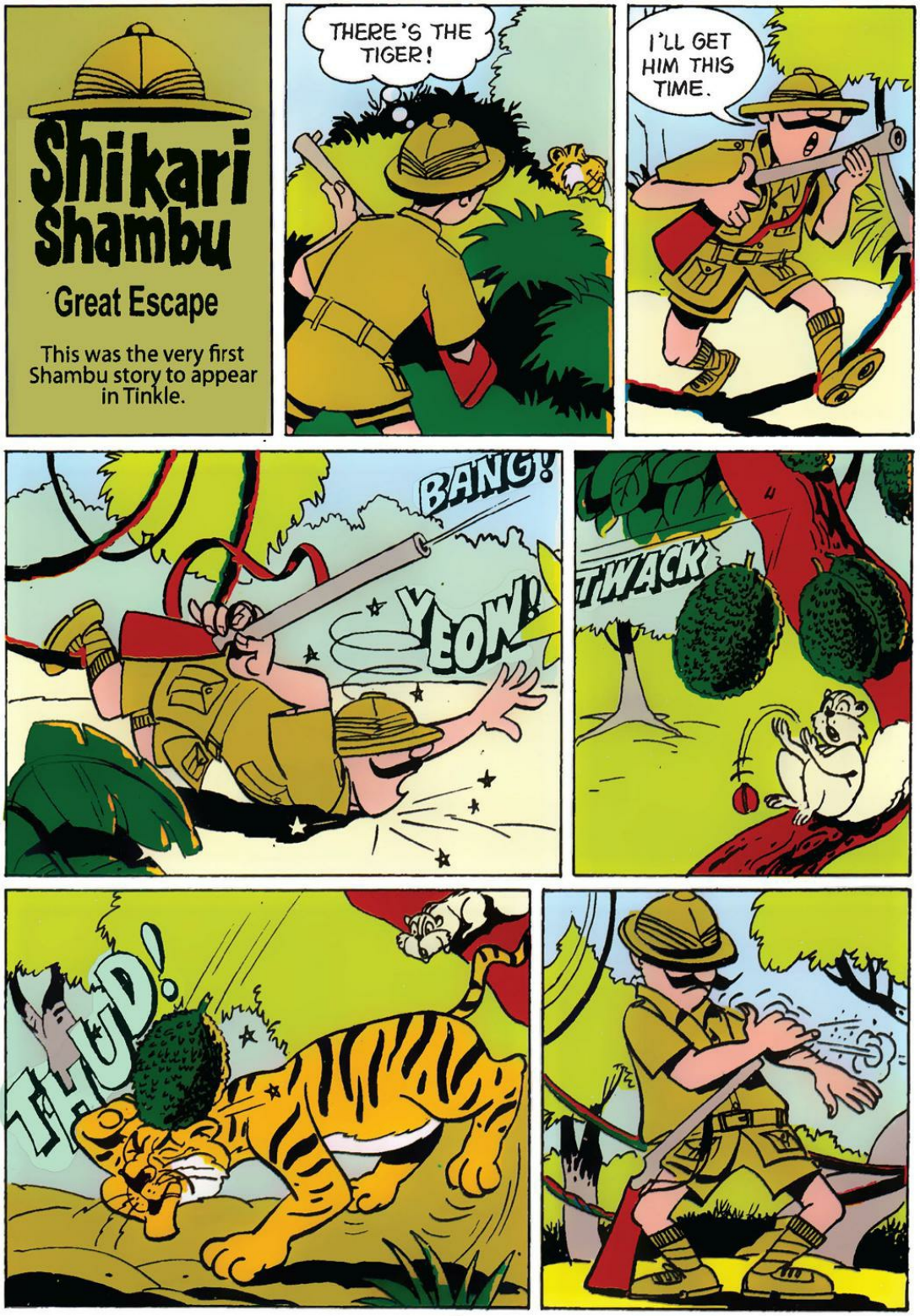
MEET SHIKARI SHAMBU

Left to himself, Shikari Shambu would sleep the whole day long...

His dreams are seldom completed because....

... Shanti, his wife and manager hates to see him wasting his time!

BUT WHERE THERE'S A WILL THERE'S A WAY! AND WITH HIS INCREDIBLE LUCK, SHIKARI SHAMBU ALWAYS COMES OUT ON TOP!

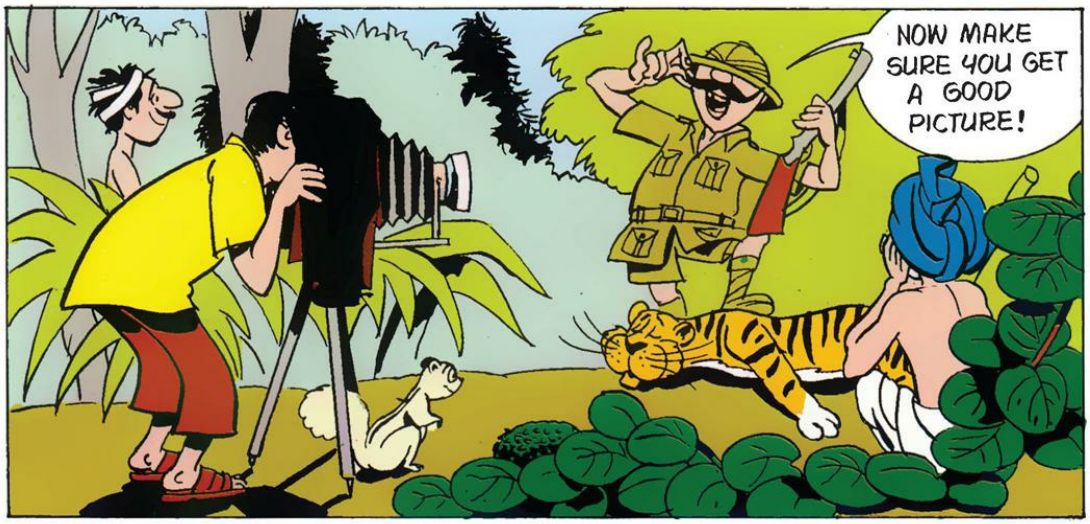

Shikari Shambu
Great Escape
This was the very first Shambu story to appear in Tinkle.
THERE'S THE TIGER!
I'LL GET HIM THIS TIME.
BANG!
YEOW!
TWACK
THUD!

WHA...?!

I GOT HIM! I GOT HIM!

CALL THE PHOTOGRAPHER!

COME ON! YOU COWARD!


NOW MAKE SURE YOU GET A GOOD PICTURE!

ROOARR!

YIEEE!

LATER—
DON'T WORRY, SIR. I GOT A GOOD PICTURE.

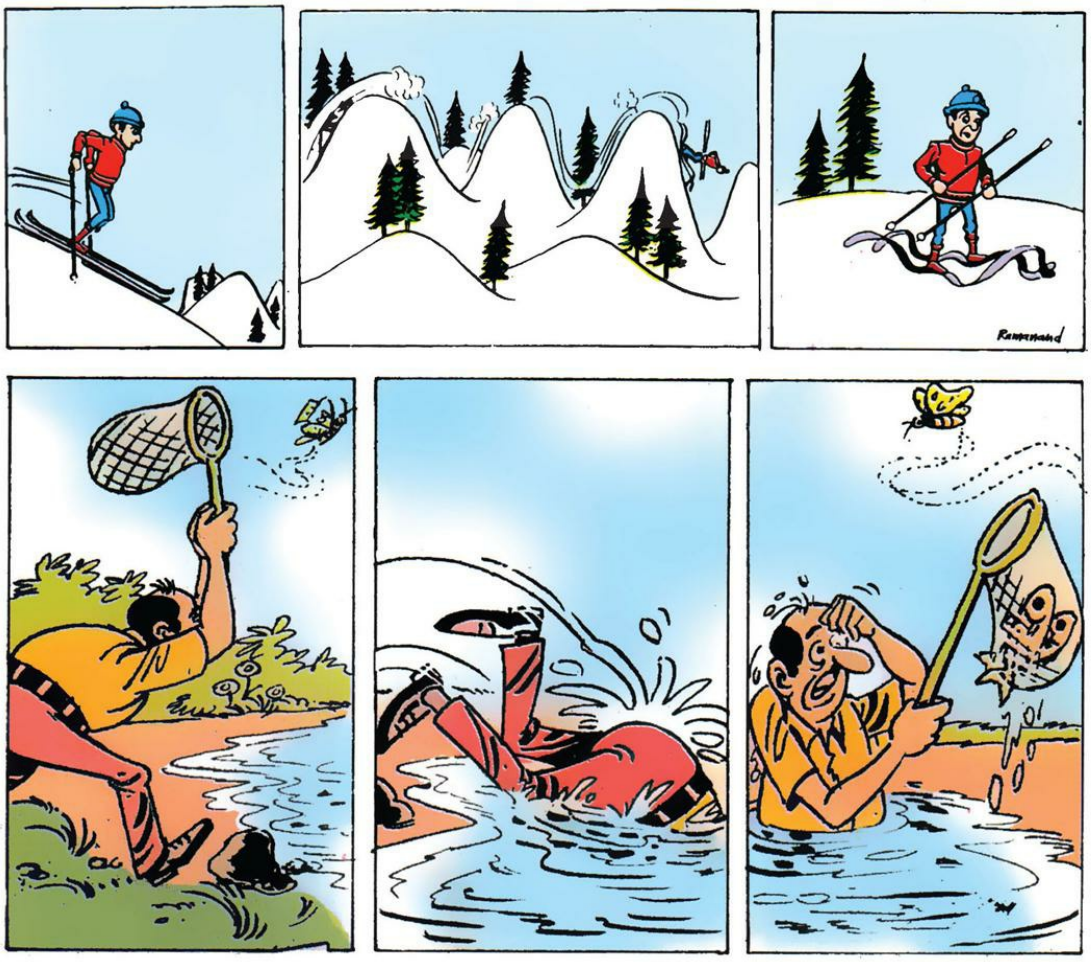
SEE!

Shikari Shambu
Shambu Traps a Tiger!
WHAT'S ALL THIS ABOUT ?
TH... THANK GOD YOU'VE COME, SAHIB...
THERE'S A MAN-EATING TIGER ON THE PROWL IN THIS JUNGLE.
M... M... MAN-EATER ?
YES AND WE'VE BEEN TRYING TO CATCH HIM FOR DAYS.
BUT WE'RE SURE YOU CAN CATCH HIM IN A FEW HOURS.
IF YOU CAN'T GET HIM, NO ONE CAN, SAHIB !
O... OKAY, HERE I GO.
I'LL GET THIS ONE ALIVE, IF THAT'S THE LAST THING I DO! I'LL CHASE HIM UP TO THIS TRUCK.
YAY!
SOON —
COME OUT OF HIDING YOU COWARD.
BANG BANG
EH!
SWISH
SWISH

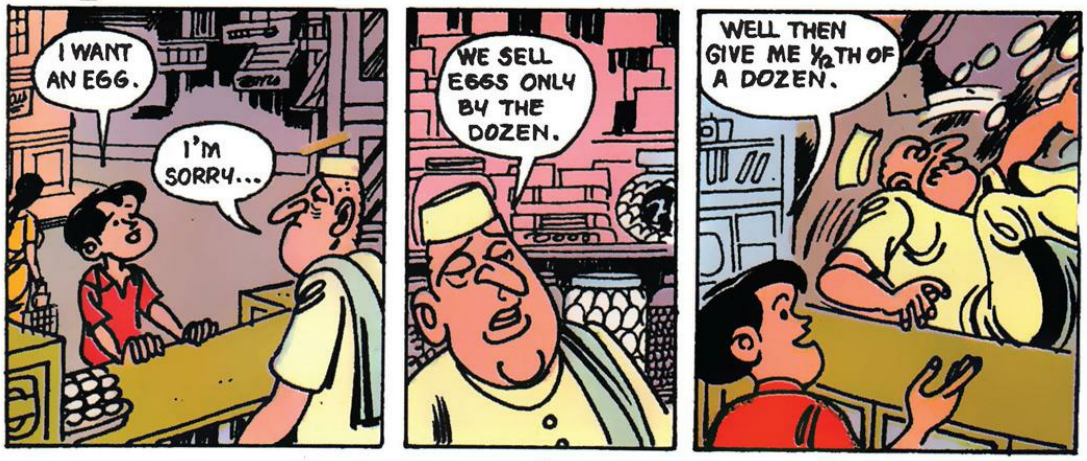
THE TI... TIGER.
SUDDENLY—
A ROPE...
MY ONLY HOPE.

OOPS... I'M SLIPPING.
SLAM
I... I HOPE THE TIGER HAS LOST ME!
WHAT A WAY TO TRAP HIM, SAHIB!
TRAPPED?
OF COURSE! OF COURSE!
DIDN'T I TELL YOU I'D CHASE HIM UP TO THE TRUCK?
OH, SAHIB, THERE'S NOBODY QUITE LIKE YOU.

See and Smile



Raghu



This happened to me

A sparrow had built a nest in the top corner of a wall cupboard. The chicks used to scream throughout the day for food. The sparrow would hunt for worms and feed them. One evening when we were packing our clothes to go on a holiday, the sparrow flew into our house through the ventilator and hit the rotating fan. She fell down and died on the spot.

Her chicks screamed throughout the night for food. My father and I were wondering what would happen to the chicks after we left in a few days. So we decided to keep the ventilator open and prayed to God for the safety of the chicks. Wonder of wonders, early the next morning we found another mother-sparrow feeding the hungry chicks!

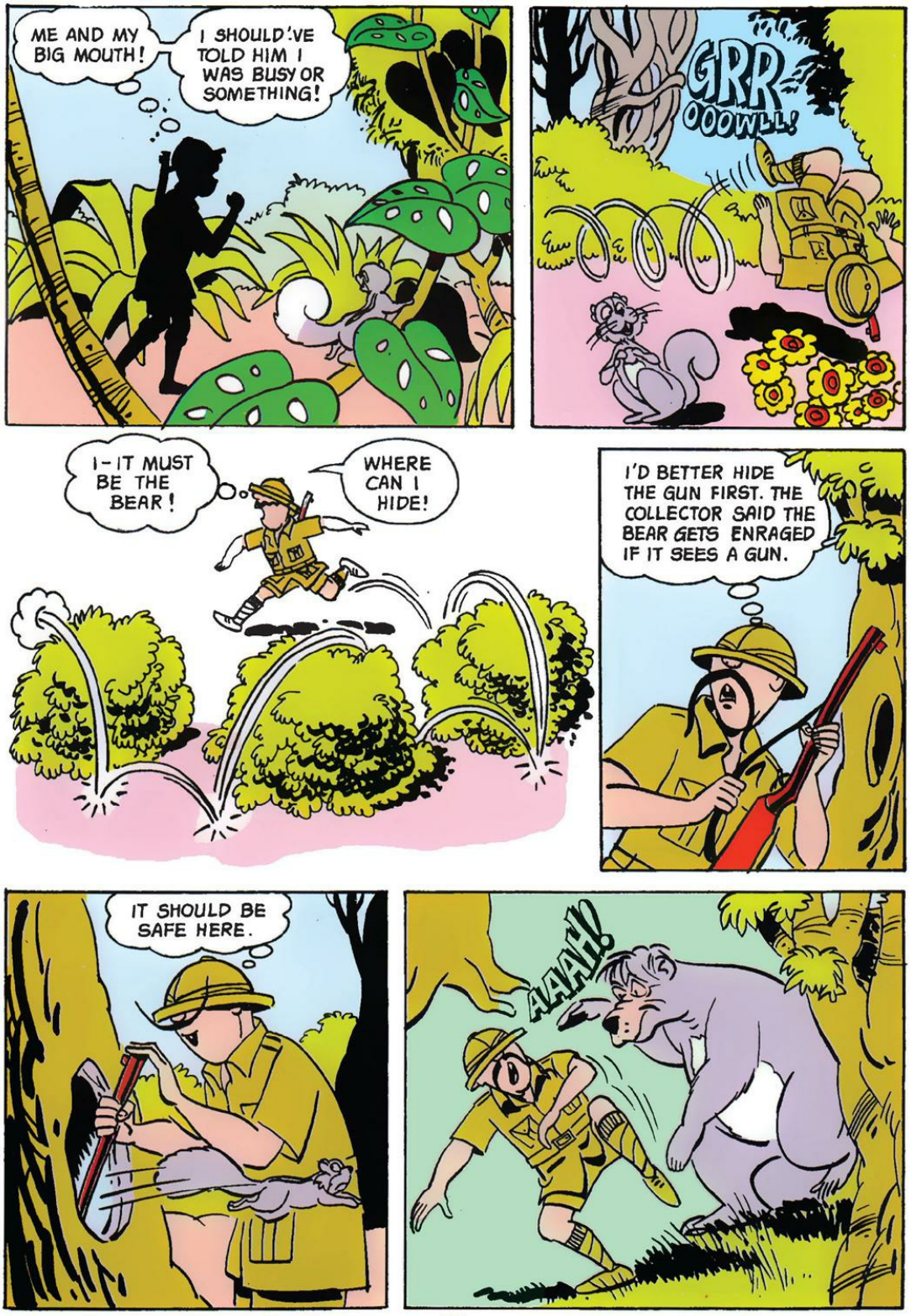
This true-life story was sent by Sharada R. Iyer of Mumbai

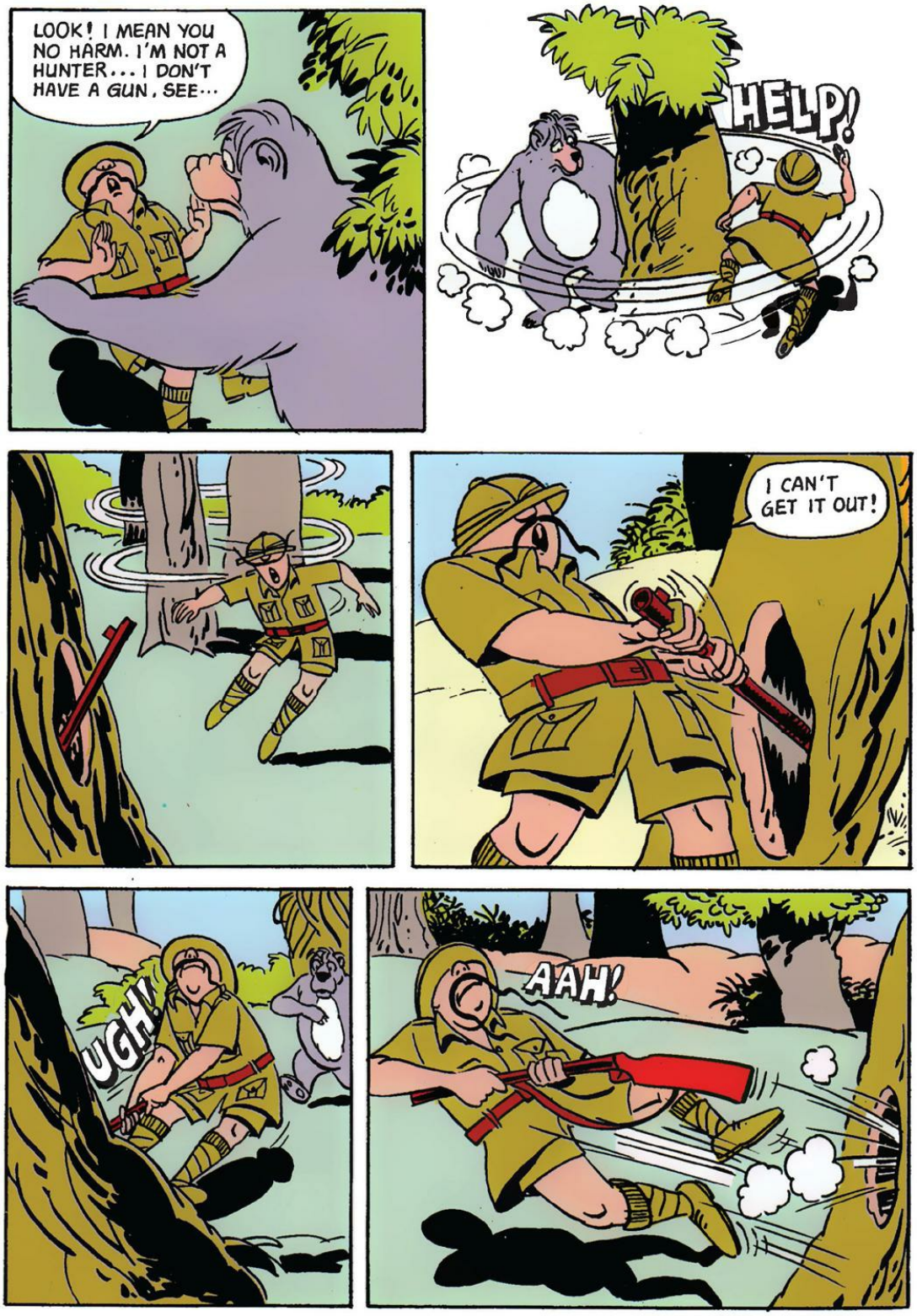
Shikari Shambu
JEEPERS CREEPERS!
YOU ARE LUCKY! NOT MANY HUSBANDS WOULD TAKE THEIR WIVES WITH THEM INTO THE JUNGLE!
HAVE YOU GOT ALL THE HERBS YOU WANTED?
ALL EXCEPT ONE.
WHAT DOES IT LOOK LIKE? I KNOW WHERE EVERYTHING GROWS IN THIS JUNGLE.
IT'S A LITTLE PLANT WITH A BUSHY TOP.
I'LL LOOK AROUND.
AHA! HERE IT IS! A LITTLE PLANT WITH A BUSHY TOP!

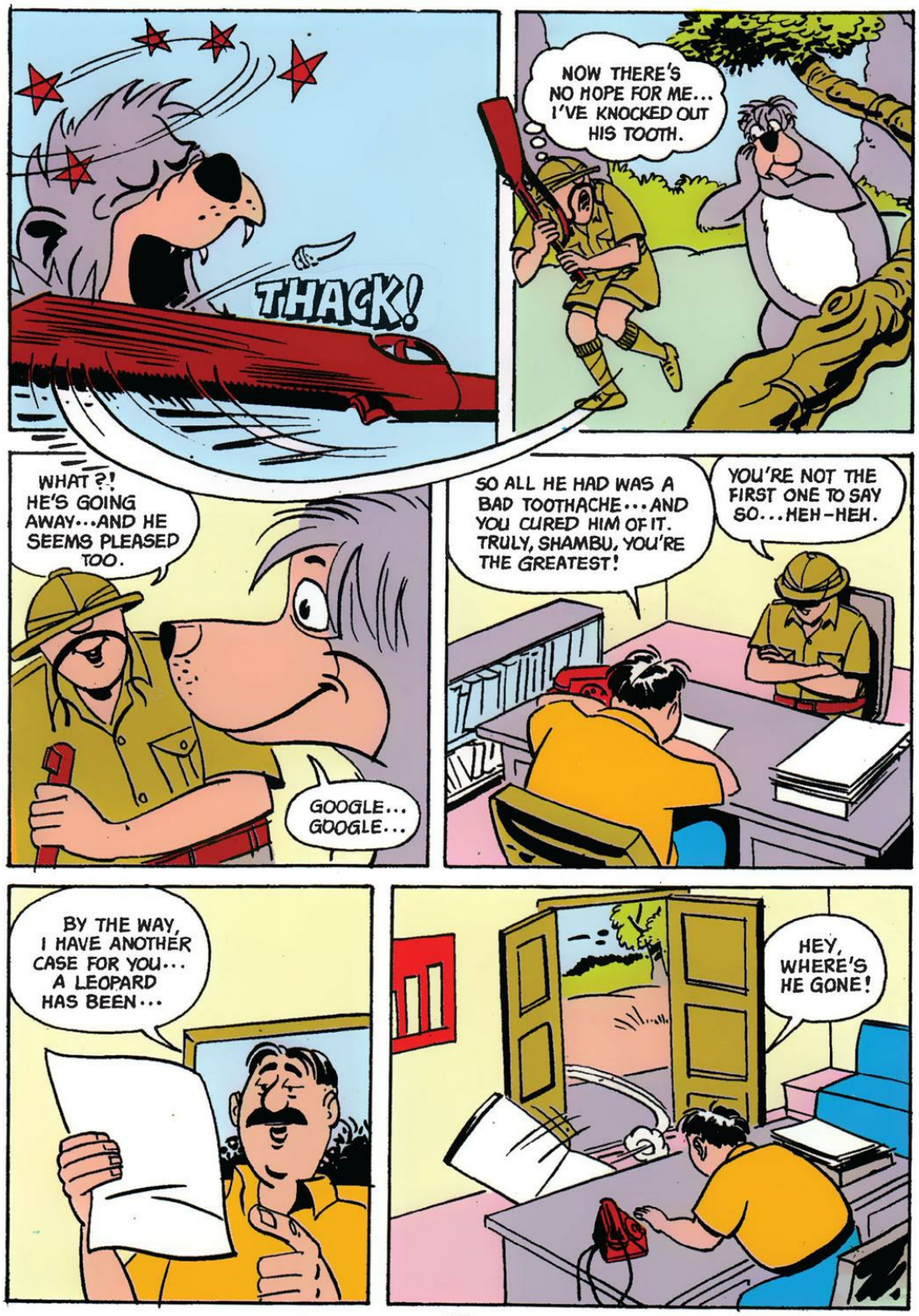
IT'S A CREEPER...
...NO, IT'S A...
...T-TIGER
EEEEEEEYOW
COME ON!
!
WHAT'S THE HURRY!
CRASH!

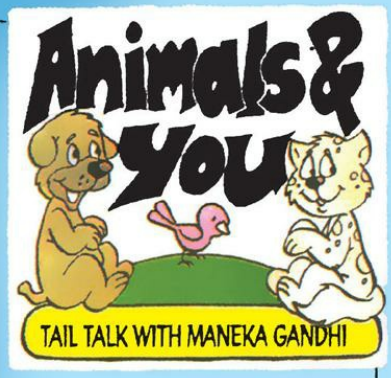
WE COULD HAVE BROKEN OUR NECKS!
HE'S GONE! THANK GOODNESS!
IT'S HERE!
THE HERB I WAS LOOKING FOR!
THUMP!
HOW DID YOU KNOW IT WAS GROWING HERE?
I... ER... AHEM..
I TOLD YOU I KNOW WHERE EVERYTHING GROWS IN THIS JUNGLE!

Shikari Shambu
Toothy Tale
ONE DAY AT THE COLLECTOR'S OFFICE—
I HAVE BEEN WAITING FOR YOU ALL MORNING, MR. SHAMBU.
I CAME AS SOON AS I GOT YOUR MESSAGE.
THERE'S A BEAR CAUSING A LOT OF TROUBLE IN THE FOREST.
BEARS ARE NORMALLY PEACEFUL ANIMALS BUT THIS ONE SEEMS TO BE ANGRY ABOUT SOMETHING. IT ATTACKS ANYONE WHO PASSES BY.
OH DEAR ME!
SO I WAS WONDERING IF YOU WOULD GO OUT THERE AND DO SOMETHING ABOUT THIS NUISANCE.
LEAVE IT TO ME.
GROWTH
THANK YOU, MR. SHAMBU. I KNEW I COULD COUNT ON YOU.
BUT BE CAREFUL. TWO OTHER HUNTERS WHO WENT AFTER IT ENDED UP IN HOSPITAL. THE ANIMAL GETS INTO A RAGE IF IT SEES A GUN.
...(GULP)...


ME AND MY BIG MOUTH!
I SHOULD'VE TOLD HIM I WAS BUSY OR SOMETHING!
GRR
OOOWLL!
I-IT MUST BE THE BEAR!
WHERE CAN I HIDE!
I'D BETTER HIDE THE GUN FIRST. THE COLLECTOR SAID THE BEAR GETS ENRAGED IF IT SEES A GUN.
IT SHOULD BE SAFE HERE.
AAAH!


LOOK! I MEAN YOU NO HARM. I'M NOT A HUNTER... I DON'T HAVE A GUN, SEE...
HELP!
I CAN'T GET IT OUT!
UGH!
AAH!


THACK!
NOW THERE'S NO HOPE FOR ME... I'VE KNOCKED OUT HIS TOOTH.
WHAT ?! HE'S GOING AWAY...AND HE SEEMS PLEASED TOO.
GOOGLE... GOOGLE...
SO ALL HE HAD WAS A BAD TOOTHACHE...AND YOU CURED HIM OF IT. TRULY, SHAMBU, YOU'RE THE GREATEST!
YOU'RE NOT THE FIRST ONE TO SAY SO...HEH-HEH.
BY THE WAY, I HAVE ANOTHER CASE FOR YOU... A LEOPARD HAS BEEN...
HEY, WHERE'S HE GONE!



There is a common belief that cats love a house and its surroundings more than the human who cares for it and feeds it. This is not true.

Cats are certainly more comfortable in a known territory and will take time adjusting to a new one. But once you have made a pet of a cat you cannot leave her behind when you move out of that house. The animal gets accustomed to food at regular times and loses the skill to find it for herself. If that food and water becomes unavailable she will starve, become ill and even die.

When a cat is adopted she presumes that she is a member of that family. When she rubs herself against you, she is exchanging smells, which she does only with someone whom she trusts. She depends on you for shelter and affection.

When we adopt a dog or a cat or any animal we must remember that he becomes our responsibility for the whole of his life. When we move house we never forget to take our clothes and toys. How can we abandon a living creature that depends on us?

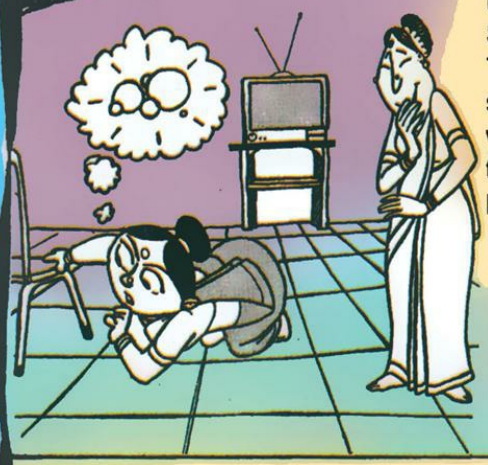
Clever Creature

The octopus blocks the entrance to its den with a door made of rocks.

Quote

If animals were made by God for man's use, how come they were on earth long centuries before man was made! - Adapted from Henry Salt

IT HAPPENED TO ME



LOOKING FOR THE PEARLS

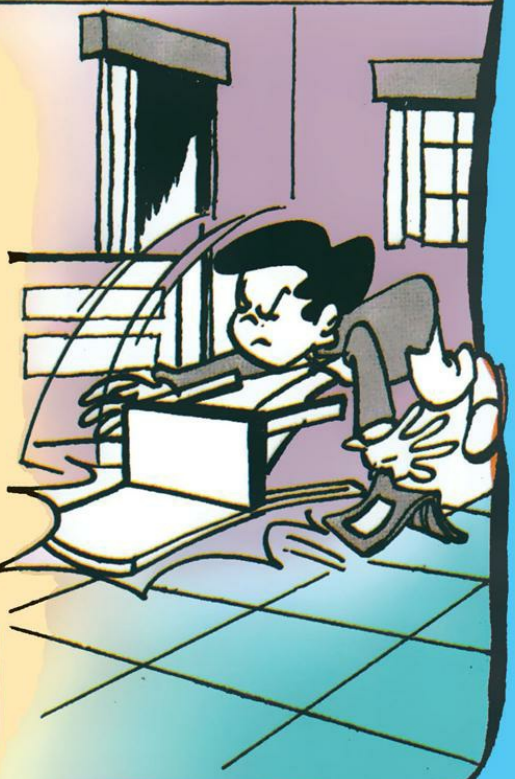
This happened to me when my aunt visited us along with her one-and-a-half-year-old child and the child's nurse, Shusee. From the moment Shusee arrived she sat engrossed in front of the TV and did not utter a word. Suddenly when she spoke, my mother laughed and told her that she was dropping pearls from her mouth. Not realizing that it had been said figuratively she jumped from her seat and began looking for the pearls.

Based on a true-life incident sent by: R.K. Sri Nivedita,
New Scheme Road, M.L. Puram,
Pollachi – 642 002.

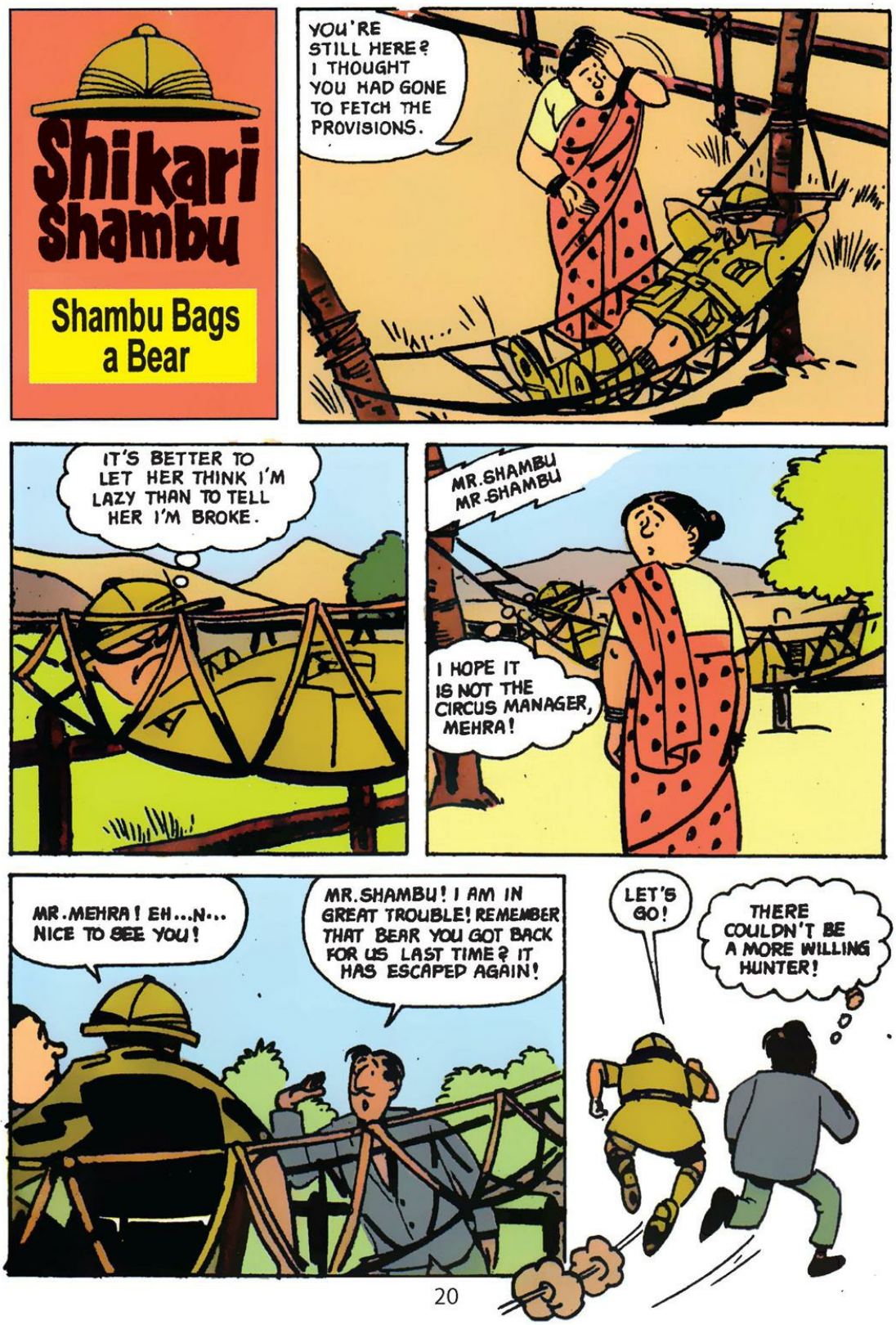
CLOSE SHAVE

Once during my exams I woke up at about two in the morning to revise my lessons. I took my books to the TV room so as not to disturb anybody. I finished revising by three and decided to go back to bed. As I crept back to my bedroom in the dark I stumbled across a chair and that made quite a noise. My parent's bedroom was near the TV room and my father heard the noise. He grabbed a steel rod and struck the floor, hoping to scare away what he thought was a thief. I quickly got into bed and pulled up the covers.

In the morning my father told us what had happened the night before. I told him it was only me stumbling upon a chair. Everybody started laughing. I still remember that steel rod that was almost used to thrash me.



Based on a true-life incident sent by:
Jason W. Manners, c/o R. Langstelh, Nongrah (Nongpdeng), P.O. Umpling, Shillong -793 006, Meghalaya.


Shikari Shambu
Shambu Bags a Bear
YOU'RE STILL HERE? I THOUGHT YOU HAD GONE TO FETCH THE PROVISIONS.
IT'S BETTER TO LET HER THINK I'M LAZY THAN TO TELL HER I'M BROKE.
MR.SHAMBU MR.SHAMBU
I HOPE IT IS NOT THE CIRCUS MANAGER, MEHRA!
MR.MEHRA! EH...N... NICE TO SEE YOU!
MR.SHAMBU! I AM IN GREAT TROUBLE! REMEMBER THAT BEAR YOU GOT BACK FOR US LAST TIME? IT HAS ESCAPED AGAIN!
LET'S GO!
THERE COULDN'T BE A MORE WILLING HUNTER!

AT LEAST I HAVE GOT AWAY FROM MY WIFE!
LOOK AT HIM. IT TAKES HIM NO TIME TO DISAPPEAR WHEN THERE'S WORK TO BE DONE!
WHERE COULD THAT BEAR BE?
THE ANIMAL IS SO ELUSIVE!
SUDDENLY---
GRUNT
EEEEK!
I FORGOT TO BRING MY GUN!

IT SEEMS TO BE ANGRY. I'D BETTER HIDE HERE!
GOOD HEAVENS! IT'S CHASING MR SHAMBU!
HELP! HELP!
OH, THERE HE COMES!
I'LL TEACH HIM A LESSON HE'LL NEVER FORGET.
FORTUNATELY, THE DOOR IS OPEN!

OOPS!
THUD!
HE IS OUT COLD.
SOON—
PLEASE ACCEPT THIS SMALL TOKEN OF APPRECIATION FROM US.
UH... THANK YOU!
AT LAST I CAN BUY THE PROVISIONS AND TAKE IT EASY FOR A FEW MORE DAYS.

Shikari Shambu
The Cowardly Tiger!
THE TIGER WILL GET YOUR SCENT AND COME HERE, BUT DON'T BE AFRAID.
I WON'T LET HIM HURT YOU.
THE GOAT'S NOT SCARED. IT KNOWS IT CAN DEPEND ON ME.
ANIMALS HAVE A WAY OF KNOWING WHOM THEY CAN DEPEND ON.
ROARRRR!
T-THE TIGER!

I WISH HE WOULD STOP MOVING!
ROARR!
?
?!
AAH!

IT'S COMING HERE!
THUD!
IT'S ALL RIGHT NOW. I'M HERE TO PROTECT YOU!
EH!
HELP!

See and Smile

Shikari Shambu
Bear With Me
SOME JOURNALISTS ARE COMING TO INTERVIEW ME.
MY PICTURE WILL BE IN ALL THE PAPERS TOMORROW!
I'LL BE FAMOUS...! I...!
ALL RIGHT. NOW HAVE YOUR MILK.
TRING! TRING!
THAT MUST BE THEM!
COMING! COMING!
WELCOME!
WHAT A BEAUTIFUL HOUSE YOU HAVE HERE.
SURROUNDED BY NATURE.
I FEEL AT HOME ONLY WHEN I AM AMONG MY FRIENDS, THE ANIMALS.
COME IN AND SEE MY TROPHIES.
COME IN!

A PASSING BEAR DECIDES TO ACCEPT THE INVITATION TOO...
... AND SHUFFLES INSIDE WITH THE OTHERS.
THIS WAY, GENTLEMEN!
I BOUGHT... I MEAN, I BAGGED THIS WILD BUFFALO IN ASSAM.
AND THIS ELEPHANT IN AFRICA...
AND HERE WE HAVE A...
... BEAR!
THAT'S RIGHT, IT'S A BEAR!
YOU SHOULD HAVE BEEN THERE WHEN I WAS WRESTLING WITH HIM.
I CAUGHT HIM BY HIS NECK AND...

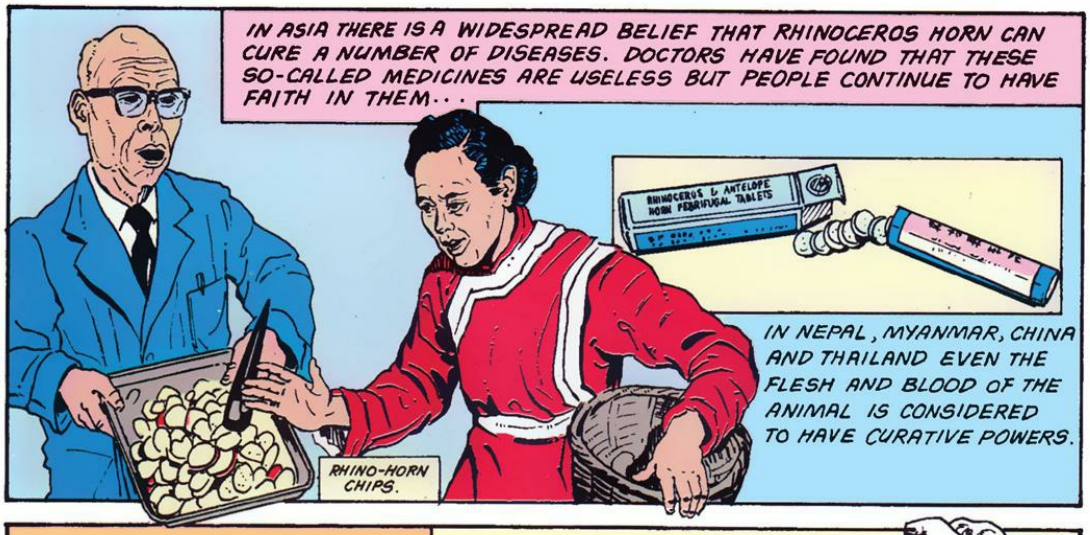
...AND...
AND...
B-
BEAR!
AEEEEI
AAAAH!
OOPS
BONK
CLICK!
CLICK
THE NEXT DAY—
YOU WERE RIGHT.
YOU'RE IN ALL
THE PAPERS!
NEWS
Shambu
Captures
Bear!

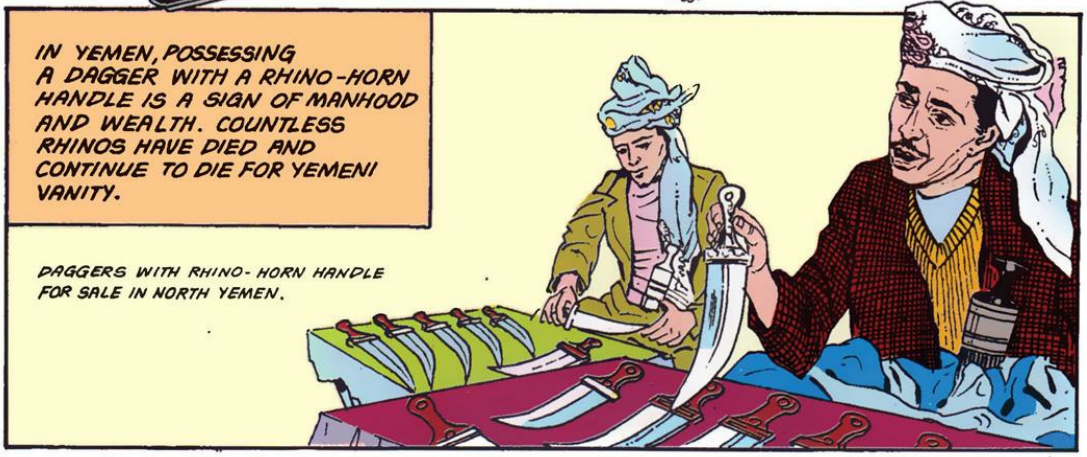
IT HAPPENED TO ME....
One day, my father gave me a rupee and asked me to get some blades. On the way to the shop, I found a rupee coin on the road. I was very happy. I went to a shop and bought sweets. Then I went to buy the blades. When I put my hand into my pocket I found there was no money. Then I realised that the coin I had found had fallen from my own pocket, pushed out when I had put my hand into it to take out some marbles. Needless to say I got a severe scolding from my father when I went home without the blades.
A true-life incident sent by Master S. Karthik, 856, 4th main Road, Vijayanagar, Bangalore-560 040
Once we had a cat named Tiger. We loved it very much. But it grew very naughty and once it even stole the fish from the kitchen. From that day on, we stopped it from entering the house. One day while we were sitting in the drawing room, we heard a soft knock on the door and ran to answer it. We were amazed to see the cat walk in. Later we found that the cat had learnt to jump up and give the door a soft knock.
A true-life incident sent by Aparna Raut Desai, Rua-de-Ourem, Neugi Nagar, Panaji, Goa-403001

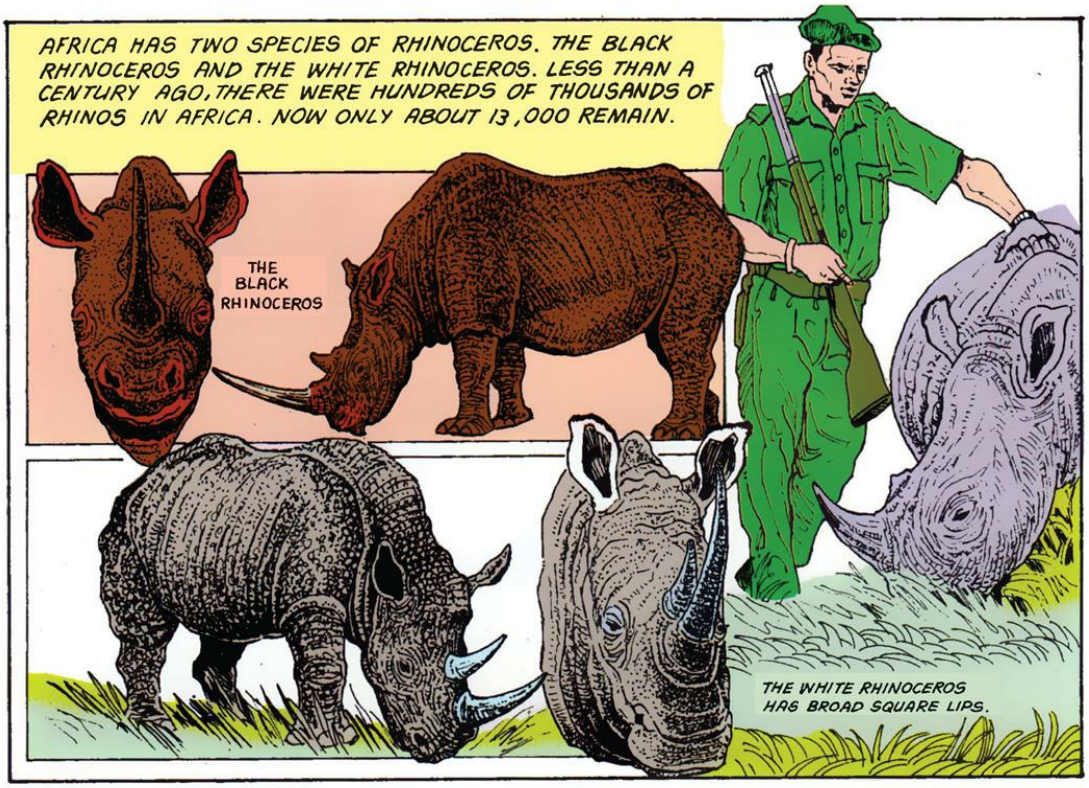
ARE WE BIDDING FAREWELL TO THE RHINOCEROS?

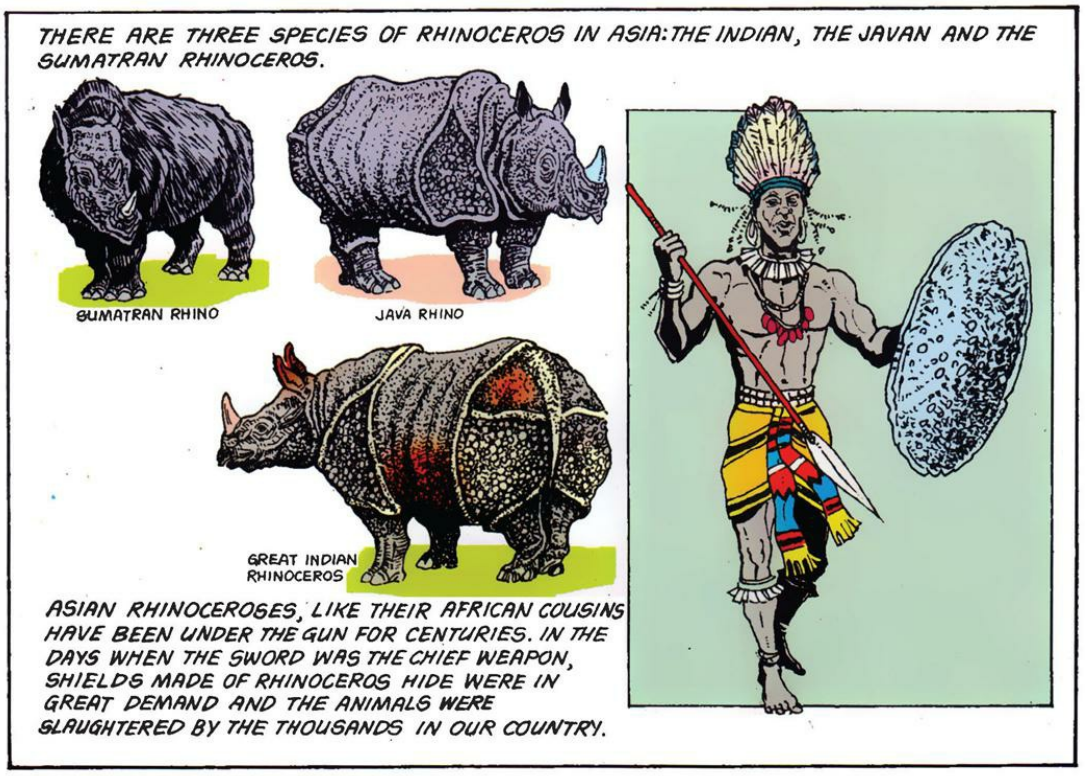
Script:
Luis Fernandes

Illustrations:
Gautam Sen






AFRICA HAS TWO SPECIES OF RHINOCEROS. THE BLACK RHINOCEROS AND THE WHITE RHINOCEROS. LESS THAN A CENTURY AGO, THERE WERE HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS OF RHINOS IN AFRICA. NOW ONLY ABOUT 13,000 REMAIN.
THE BLACK RHINOCEROS
THE WHITE RHINOCEROS HAS BROAD SQUARE LIPS.

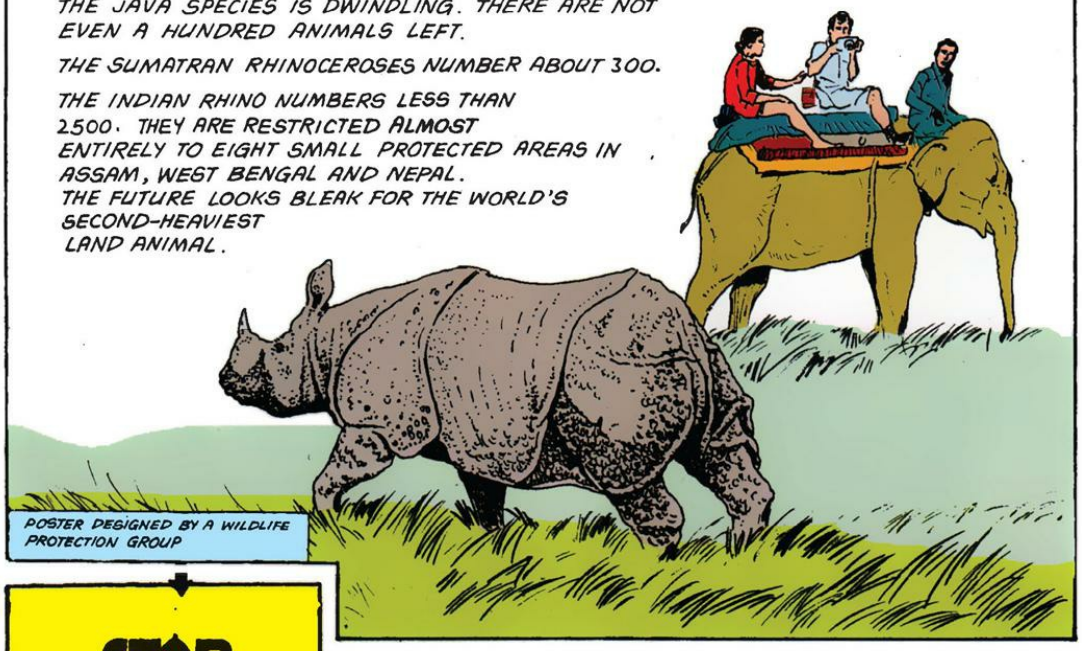

THERE ARE THREE SPECIES OF RHINOCEROS IN ASIA: THE INDIAN, THE JAVAN AND THE SUMATRAN RHINOCEROS.
SUMATRAN RHINO
JAVA RHINO
GREAT INDIAN RHINOCEROS
ASIAN RHINOCEROSES, LIKE THEIR AFRICAN COUSINS HAVE BEEN UNDER THE GUN FOR CENTURIES. IN THE DAYS WHEN THE SWORD WAS THE CHIEF WEAPON, SHIELDS MADE OF RHINOCEROS HIDE WERE IN GREAT DEMAND AND THE ANIMALS WERE SLAUGHTERED BY THE THOUSANDS IN OUR COUNTRY.

THE LATEST TALLY

THE JAVA SPECIES IS DWINDLING. THERE ARE NOT EVEN A HUNDRED ANIMALS LEFT.

THE SUMATRAN RHINOCEROSES NUMBER ABOUT 300.

THE INDIAN RHINO NUMBERS LESS THAN 2500. THEY ARE RESTRICTED ALMOST ENTIRELY TO EIGHT SMALL PROTECTED AREAS IN ASSAM, WEST BENGAL AND NEPAL.
THE FUTURE LOOKS BLEAK FOR THE WORLD'S SECOND-HEAVIEST LAND ANIMAL.



POSTER DESIGNED BY A WILDLIFE PROTECTION GROUP

A DESPERATE MEASURE

IN NAMIBIA, AFRICA, FOREST RANGERS ARE TRYING OUT AN UNIQUE EXPERIMENT. THEY ARE CUTTING OFF THE HORNS OF THE ANIMALS TO MAKE THE ANIMALS UNATTRACTIVE TO POACHERS.
REMOVING THE HORN (WHICH IS MADE OF KERATIN, THE SAME SUBSTANCE AS OUR FINGERNAILS) DEPRIVES THE AFRICAN RHINO OF A WEAPON OF ATTACK BUT DOES NOT CAUSE IT ANY PHYSICAL DISTRESS.
PERHAPS THE SAME MEASURE COULD BE TRIED OUT IN OUR COUNTRY. THE INDIAN RHINO DOES NOT USE ITS HORN EVEN WHILE FIGHTING.

THE RHINOCEROS IS FIRST PUT TO SLEEP BY SHOOTING A 'FLYING SYRINGE' CONTAINING A DRUG INTO ITS BODY. THEN THE HORN IS SAWED OFF.

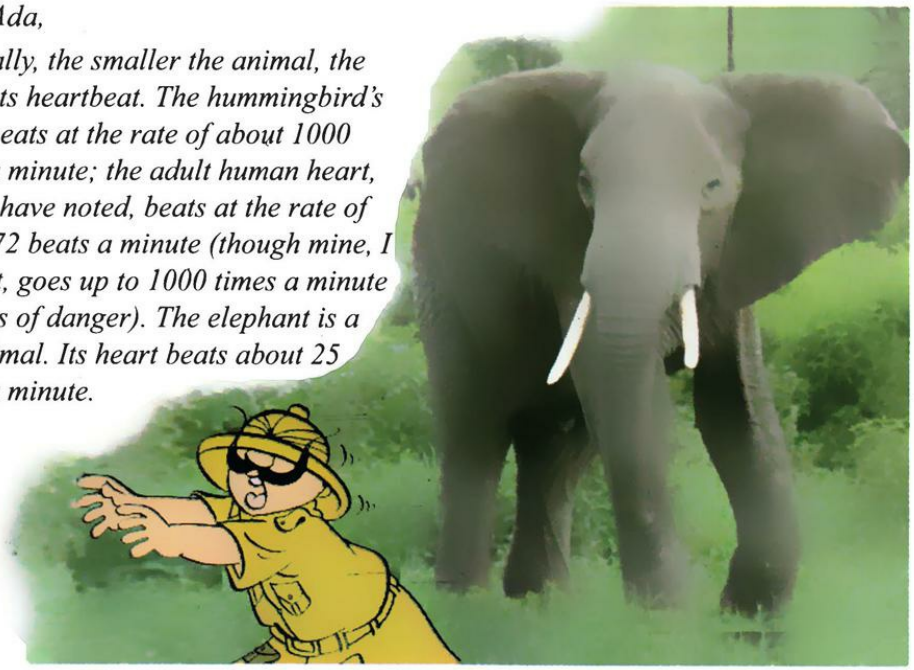
See and Smile

ASK ME ANYTHING!

Dear Shambu
Our hearts beat about 72 times a minute. How much faster does an elephant's heart beat?
Ada Tayde, *23 Yusuf Manzil Kandivli, Mumbai*

Dear Ada,

Generally, the smaller the animal, the faster its heartbeat. The hummingbird's heart beats at the rate of about 1000 times a minute; the adult human heart, as you have noted, beats at the rate of about 72 beats a minute (though mine, I suspect, goes up to 1000 times a minute in times of danger). The elephant is a big animal. Its heart beats about 25 times a minute.



Dear Shambu
Is there any bird that could defeat a man in a fight?
Mukesh Sood, *A-603, Sector 19 Noida, U.P.*

Dear Mukesh,
There's one bird I would not like to run into, and that is the cassowary. Fortunately it's not found in our country, being a native of Australia and New Guinea. The cassowary is a tall bird, like an ostrich but its legs are more powerful than an ostrich's, and it has knifelike claws. A kick from a cassowary can cripple or even kill a man.

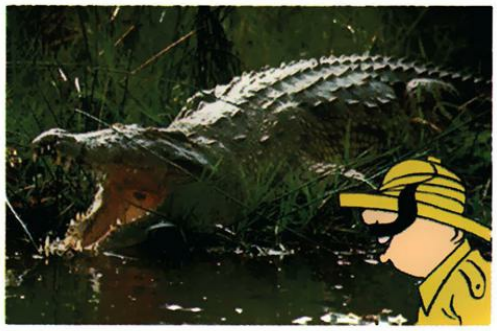
Dear Shambu
Can you tell me which is the world's hardiest tree?
Pooja Sharma, *Gera Enclave, Viman Nagar, Pune*

Dear Pooja,

Some trees can live hundreds of years but in terms of hardiness I think the prize would surely go to the Ombu tree of Argentina. This tree is almost impossible to destroy.

Its wood is so moist that you can't burn down the tree, and the trunk is so spongy that an axe bounces off it. It can survive insect attacks and the most intense heat. It can get by on very little water. Sometimes in violent storms, it is the only tree left standing for miles around.

Dear Shambu
I read somewhere that a crocodile can outrun a horse. Is it true?
Shruti Desai, *Sarangpani Street, T.Nagar Chennai - 600 017*



Dear Shruti,

Crocodiles can run surprisingly fast on land, but only for a short period. They start huffing and puffing after about 20 or 30 metres so I doubt very much if a crocodile would be able to outrun a horse, even over a short distance. I think even a man, if he's fit and healthy, would be able to outrun a croc. But don't ever attempt a race with that reptile. It might be more fit and healthier than you!

Dear Shambu
Butterflies are such gentle creatures. Do they ever fight among themselves?
Erica Rodrigues, *29, Rai, Moira, Goa*

Dear Erica,

Male butterflies of some species are known to fight over territory. They rush out to intercept intruders. They flash their colours and flutter their wings aggressively and may even make physical contact but I don't think they can hurt each other too much.

Shikari Shambu
Call of the Wild
UNCLE, IT'S ALMOST FIVE.
SO WHAT?
DON'T YOU REMEMBER... AUNTY TOLD YOU TO COME HOME BY FIVE.
OH, I REMEMBER, ALL RIGHT.
AND THAT IS WHY I HAVE NO INTENTION OF GOING HOME FOR ANOTHER HOUR OR TWO!
DO YOU KNOW WHY SHE WANTS ME HOME?
TO DO THE HOUSE-WORK!
WHY?
ME... THE GREAT SHIKARI SHAMBU WASHING DISHES! CAN YOU IMAGINE THAT! I WON'T GO HOME TILL EIGHT!
YOU'RE SO BRAVE, UNCLE!
UNCLE, LOOK, A MONKEY!
IT'S LOOKING FOR ITS MATE, I THINK.

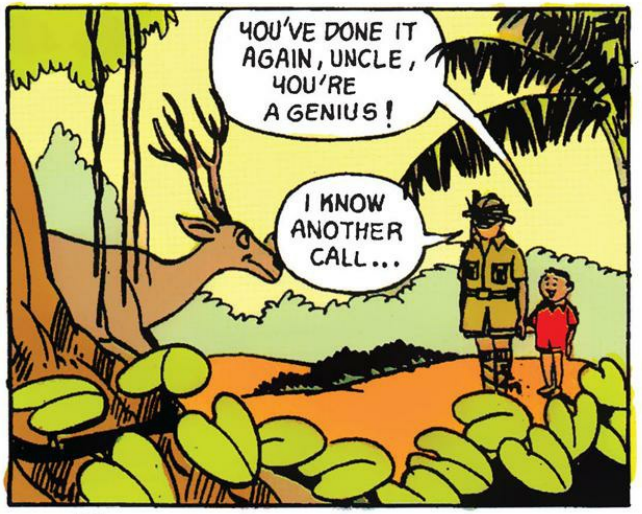
I'LL CALL IT HERE.

CHEEEK ... CHEEEEK ... CHEEEEEK .

IT'S COMING HERE UNCLE, YOU'RE GREAT!
OH, THIS IS NOTHING! I CAN IMITATE THE CALL OF ANY ANIMAL!

SEE, I'LL CALL THAT STAG.

MOHH ... MOOOAAAH ... MOOOOOOOH ...


YOU'VE DONE IT AGAIN, UNCLE, YOU'RE A GENIUS!
I KNOW ANOTHER CALL...

LISTEN TO THIS ...

GRRROWWWWL.....
GROOOOOOOOLLLL....
GROOOLLLLLL .....

I HEARD THIS CALL ONCE IN THE JUNGLE BUT I DON'T KNOW WHO MADE IT.
I.... I THINK I KNOW!

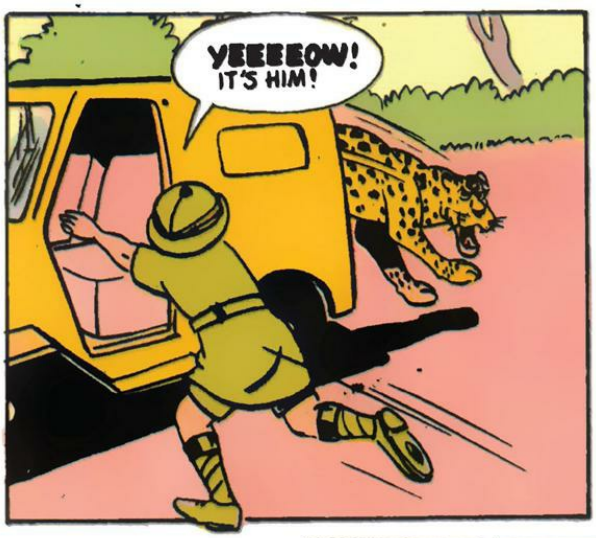
IT WAS A BEAR!
AAAAH!

RUN!

I KNOW YOU'RE LATE BUT YOU SHOULDN'T HAVE RUN SO HARD.
(PUFF)... (GASP)

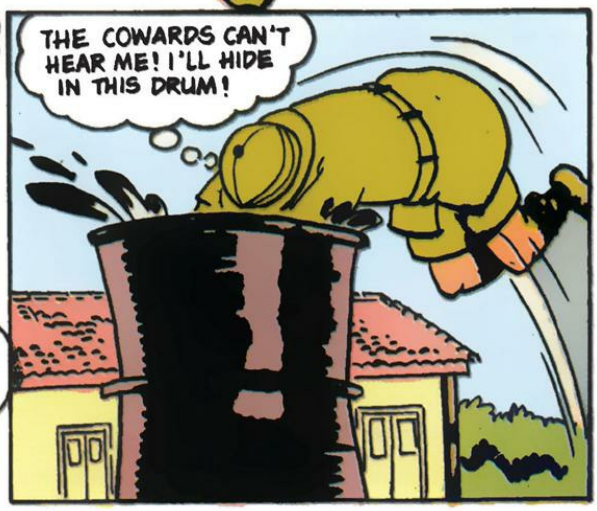
Shikari Shambu
The Best Sportsman
SHIKARI SHAMBU HAS A VISITOR— THE PRINCIPAL OF THE LOCAL SCHOOL
I HAVE A REQUEST TO MAKE...
IT MUST BE SOMETHING TO DO WITH A TIGER.
SORRY, I'M EXTREMELY BUSY!
OH!
WE WANTED YOU AS CHIEF GUEST AT OUR ANNUAL PRIZE DISTRIBUTION FUNCTION.
AS I SAID, I'M VERY BUSY, BUT, I'LL COME!
GREAT! SO WE'LL BE WAITING FOR YOU NEXT MONDAY AT 6·30 P.M.
6·30 P.M. SHARP!
THE FOLLOWING MONDAY AT 6·30 P.M.—
WELCOME! WELCOME!
AND SOON—
CHILDREN, WE HAVE AMONGST US THIS EVENING A MAN OF GREAT DARING AND SKILL...

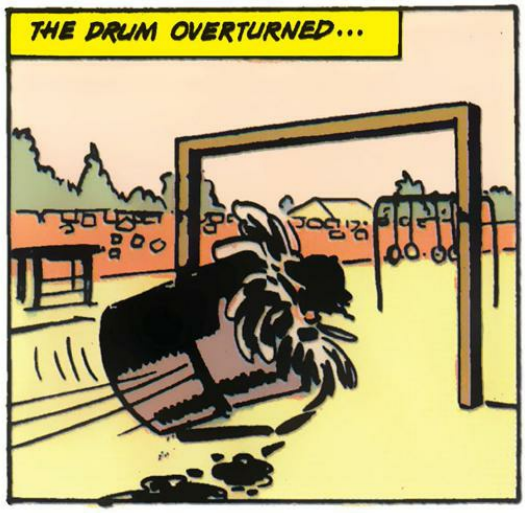
...THE GREAT SHIKARI SHAMBU!
THERE WAS THUNDEROUS APPLAUSE—
SUDDENLY—
RUN! RUN, EVERYBODY! A LEOPARD HAS STRAYED INTO THE VILLAGE.
IT'S HEADING THIS WAY!
THE LEOPARD LOOKED MEAN AND FEROCIOUS...
GRRRR RRRRR
EVERYBODY WAS TERRIFIED—
A-ARE YOU G-G-GOING TO G-G-GET YOUR G-GUN?
Y-Y-YES!
I'LL JUST HOP INTO MY JEEP AND DRIVE AWAY... HEHHEH

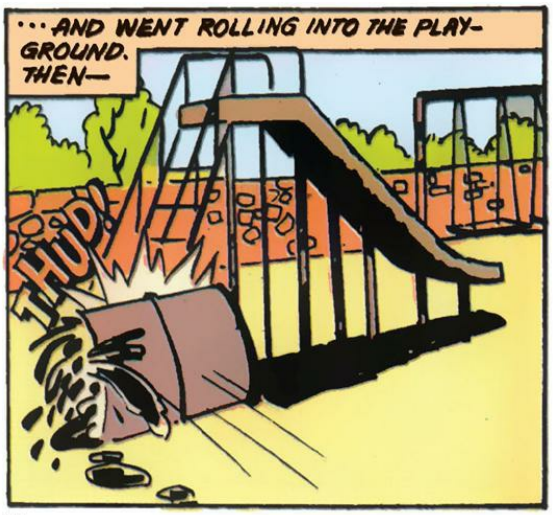

YEEEEOW! IT'S HIM!

THEY'VE LOCKED THEMSELVES IN THE SCHOOL!

GRRR!
LEAVING ME OUTSIDE!
HELP! OPEN THE DOOR!


THE COWARDS CAN'T HEAR ME! I'LL HIDE IN THIS DRUM!


THE DRUM OVERTURNED...


...AND WENT ROLLING INTO THE PLAY-GROUND. THEN—
THUD!

I'LL CLIMB UP AND SEE WHERE THAT ANIMAL IS!
I'M A MESS! I WONDER WHAT WAS IN THAT DRUM...
...OOPS!
AAAAAAH!
BONK!
THE LEOPARD! AND HE IS OUT COLD!
LATER—
AND...FOR THE BEST SPORTSMAN OF THEM ALL—SHIKARI SHAMBU!

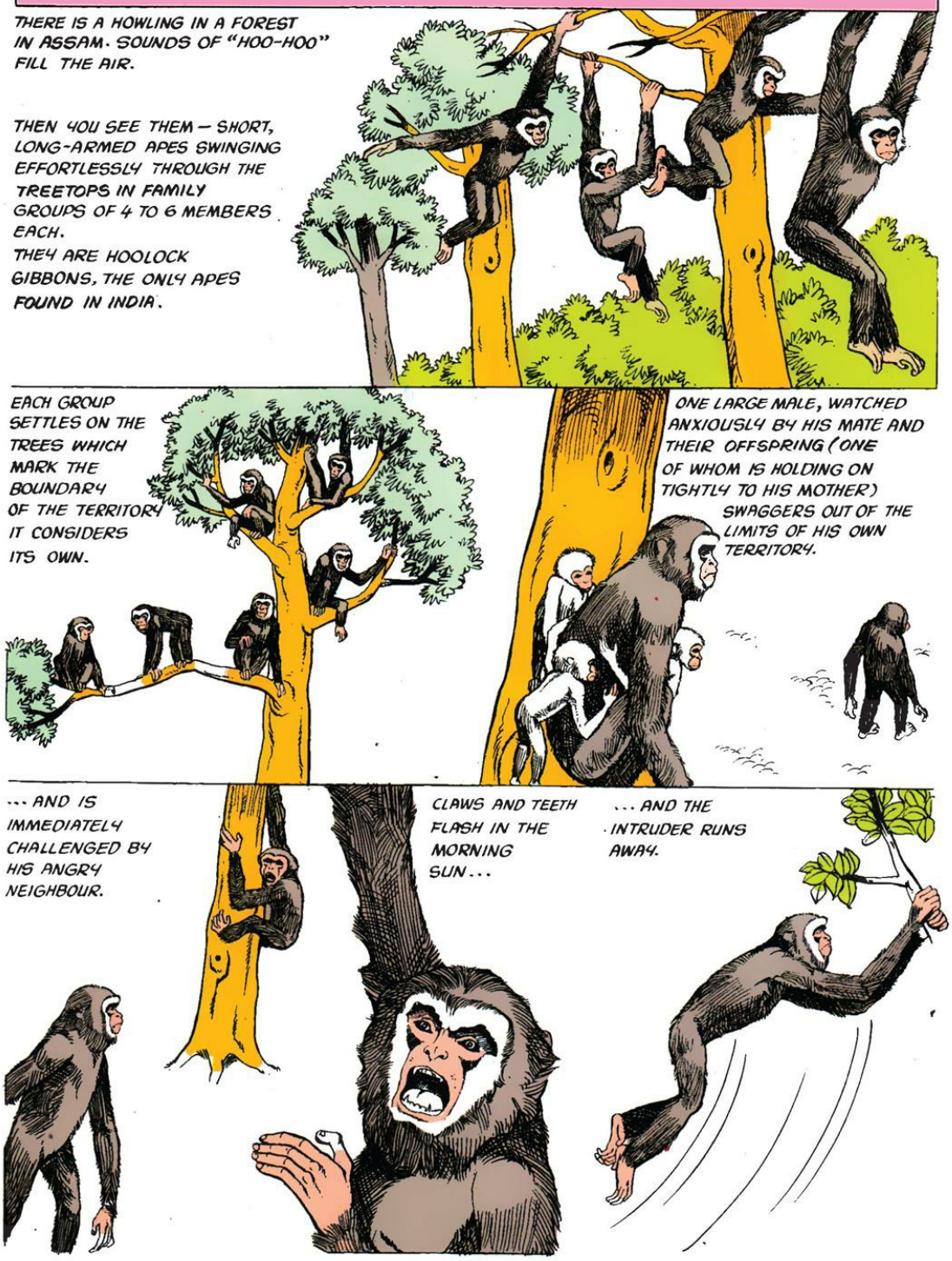
Shikari Shambu
Crowned!
SHAMBU, WE'RE INTERESTED IN A TRIBE WHO LIVE IN THIS JUNGLE...
...AND WE WANT PHOTOGRAPHS OF THE CHIEF'S HEADDRESS. WILL YOU HELP US?
FORGET IT. THEY WON'T EVEN LET YOU GO ANYWHERE NEAR THEM. GO BACK.
B... BUT...
WHAT SHALL WE DO?
WE'LL HAVE TO TRY ON OUR OWN, I SUPPOSE. WE'LL START RIGHT AWAY.
MEANWHILE—
YEEAH
SWISH
SWISH
HELP! HELP!
OW!
THUD
Bring him along.

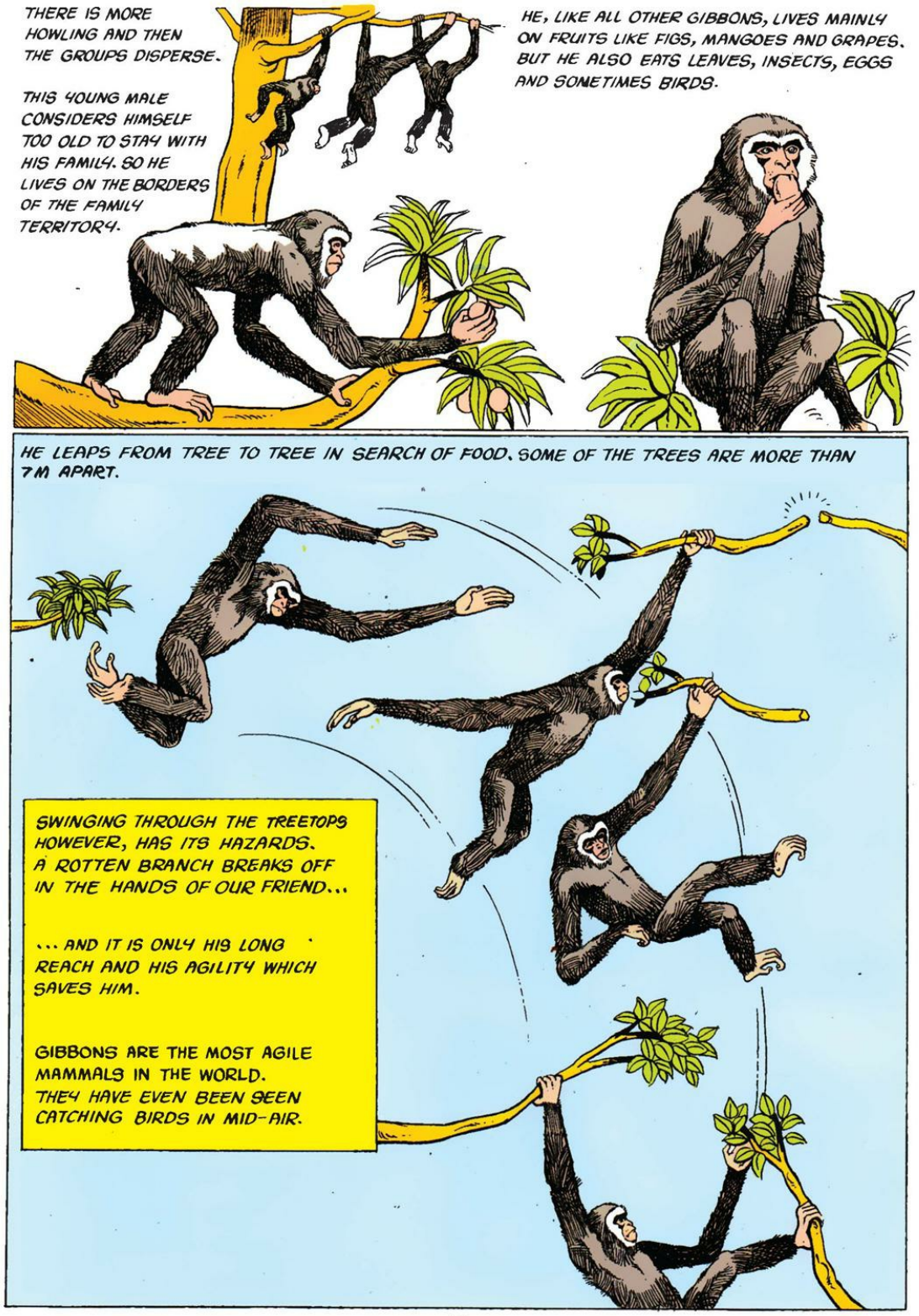
SOON—
What have you brought?
This shikari, O great chief.
Good! Untie him. Let the warriors' dance begin.
YEEAH!
YEEAH!
SUDDENLY—
BANG!
SNICK!
RROAR
Run! Run!
I'LL MAKE FOR THE PALISADE.
Help! Help! He's after me!
RROAR!

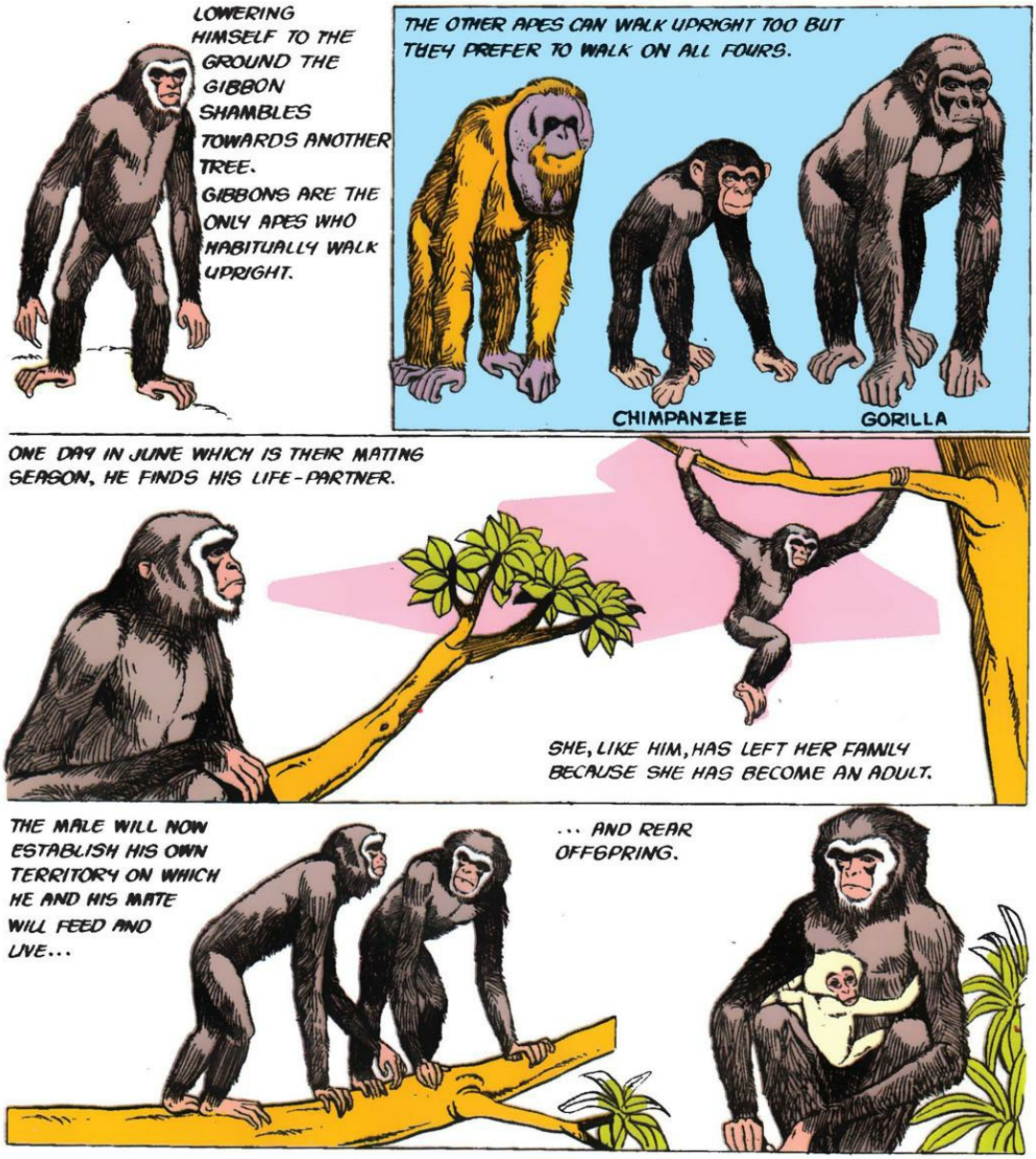
GROWL!
ZIP!
YEE
RROAR
HEY, LOOK! IT'S SHAMBU. WHAT'S THAT HE'S WEARING?
HEY, SHAMBU! OVER HERE!
WHAT'S THAT ON YOUR HEAD, SHAMBU?
EH?
OH! IT'S THE HEADDRESS YOU WANTED. I THOUGHT I'D GET IT FOR YOU AFTER ALL.

THE HOOLOCK GIBBON

Script: Luis Fernandes
Illustrations: Ajit Vasaikar




THERE IS MORE HOWLING AND THEN THE GROUPS DISPERSE.
THIS YOUNG MALE CONSIDERS HIMSELF TOO OLD TO STAY WITH HIS FAMILY. SO HE LIVES ON THE BORDERS OF THE FAMILY TERRITORY.
HE, LIKE ALL OTHER GIBBONS, LIVES MAINLY ON FRUITS LIKE FIGS, MANGOES AND GRAPES. BUT HE ALSO EATS LEAVES, INSECTS, EGGS AND SOMETIMES BIRDS.
HE LEAPS FROM TREE TO TREE IN SEARCH OF FOOD. SOME OF THE TREES ARE MORE THAN 7M APART.
SWINGING THROUGH THE TREETOPS HOWEVER, HAS ITS HAZARDS. A ROTTEN BRANCH BREAKS OFF IN THE HANDS OF OUR FRIEND...
... AND IT IS ONLY HIS LONG REACH AND HIS AGILITY WHICH SAVES HIM.
GIBBONS ARE THE MOST AGILE MAMMALS IN THE WORLD. THEY HAVE EVEN BEEN SEEN CATCHING BIRDS IN MID-AIR.



THE HOOLOCK GIBBON BECAUSE OF DWINDLING FORESTS IS TODAY AN ENDANGERED SPECIES. SPREAD OVER THE REST OF ASIA HOWEVER, ARE FIVE OTHER SPECIES OF GIBBON THAT ARE NUMEROUS IN THE WILD.

SIAMANG GIBBON

ONE SPECIES, THE SIAMANG GIBBON HAS A LARGE THROAT BAG WHICH IT USES WHEN CALLING. AS IT BREATHES IN, THE BAG FILLS WITH AIR AND A LOUD BOOM IS PRODUCED.

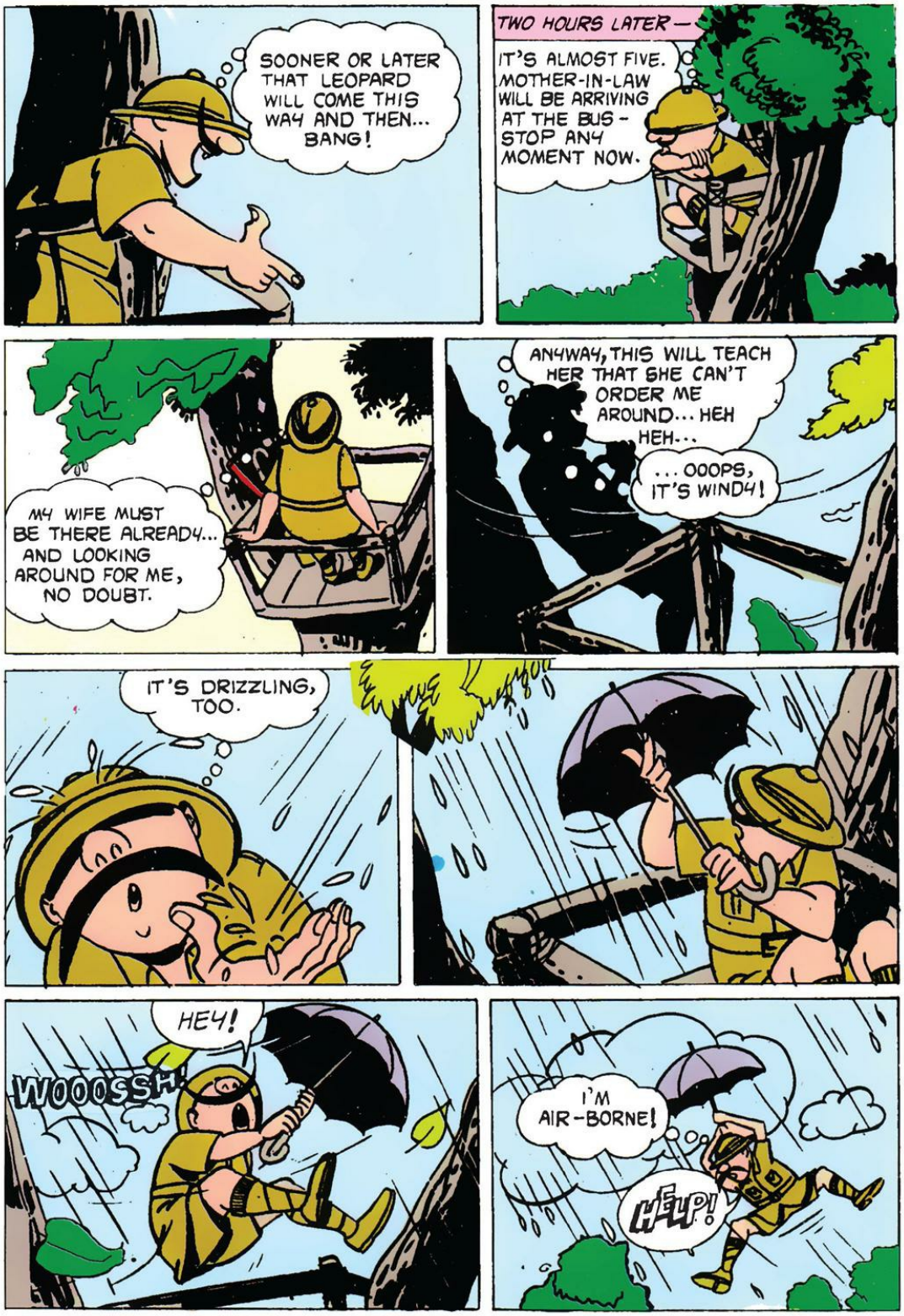
CLASSIFICATION

CLASS : MAMMALIA

ORDER : PRIMATES

FAMILY : PONGIDAE

Shikari Shambu
Airborne!
I'VE BEEN ASKED TO HUNT DOWN A DANGEROUS LEOPARD...
...A MAN-EATER!
MAKE SURE YOU'RE BACK BY TEA-TIME!
MOTHER IS ARRIVING TODAY AND WE HAVE TO MEET HER AT THE BUS-STOP AT 5 O' CLOCK!
DOES SHE EXPECT ME TO DROP EVERYTHING AND RUSH TO THE BUS-STOP AT 5 O'CLOCK?!
ONCE WE HUNTERS ARE ON THE TRAIL OF AN ANIMAL WE LOSE ALL SENSE OF TIME!
I WON'T RETURN TILL I'VE BAGGED THAT LEOPARD!
AH, HERE'S MY MACHAN.


SOONER OR LATER THAT LEOPARD WILL COME THIS WAY AND THEN... BANG!
TWO HOURS LATER —
IT'S ALMOST FIVE. MOTHER-IN-LAW WILL BE ARRIVING AT THE BUS-STOP ANY MOMENT NOW.
MY WIFE MUST BE THERE ALREADY... AND LOOKING AROUND FOR ME, NO DOUBT.
ANYWAY, THIS WILL TEACH HER THAT SHE CAN'T ORDER ME AROUND... HEH HEH...
...OOOPS, IT'S WINDY!
IT'S DRIZZLING, TOO.
HEY!
WOOOSSH!
I'M AIR-BORNE!
HELP!

SPLASH
NOW I'M IN BIGGER TROUBLE... I'M HEADING STRAIGHT FOR THE WATERFALL!
EEEE-YOW!
ER-SPLOSH!
THANK HEAVENS, I'M STILL IN ONE PIECE...
FOR A MOMENT, I THOUGHT...
SO THERE YOU ARE!
WHY ARE YOU SO LATE?! GET OUT OF THAT WATER QUICKLY!
!
THE BUS IS HERE! COME ON!
SOMEHOW SHE ALWAYS HAS HER WAY.

Shikari Shambu
The Talking Tiger!
A FEW DAYS BEFORE THE VILLAGE FESTIVAL—
FOUR DAYS TO GO AND WE VE NOT EVEN REHEARSED OUR ROLE FOR THE PLAY.
IT'S TOO CROWDED HERE— LET'S GO TO THE WOODS AND REHEARSE.
HAVE YOU PACKED UP THE COSTUMES?
I HAVE. LET'S HOPE NOBODY DISTURBS US IN THE WOODS.
THIS LOOKS LIKE A GOOD PLACE.
YES. LET'S BEGIN NOW.
MEANWHILE—
FE FI FO FUM... I SMELL A TIGER!
WHAAA!
?
A...A SHIKARI.
TH... THIS TIGER T... TALKS!

RUN!
FASTER... HE HAS A GUN.
O GOD! HIS TAIL TALKS TOO.
N... NEVER HAVE I... S... SEEN SUCH A TIGER.
I... I'LL SHOOT HIM FROM THE TOP OF THIS HILL.

CRASH
Y-YOU TWO WERE IN THAT COSTUME!
Y-YES.
I'D HAVE SHOT YOU DOWN YOU KNOW.
TH... THANK GOD YOU DIDN'T!
BUT WAIT A MINUTE... FE FI FO FUM... I STILL SMELL A TIGER.
T... TIGER BEHIND Y... YOU.
GROWL

Shikari Shambu
Hijacked!
THE ONE GREAT ADVANTAGE OF FLYING IS THAT...
...TIGERS CAN'T GET TO YOU.
BUT EAGLES CAN...
UH...I'D BETTER DRAW THE CURTAINS...
...AND GET SOME SLEEP.
BUT —
EVERYBODY, FREEZE! WE ARE TAKING THIS PLANE TO SINGAPORE.
THE TWO OF YOU KEEP A WATCH IN THE GANGWAY WHILE I AM IN THE COCKPIT.
YES, BOSS!!

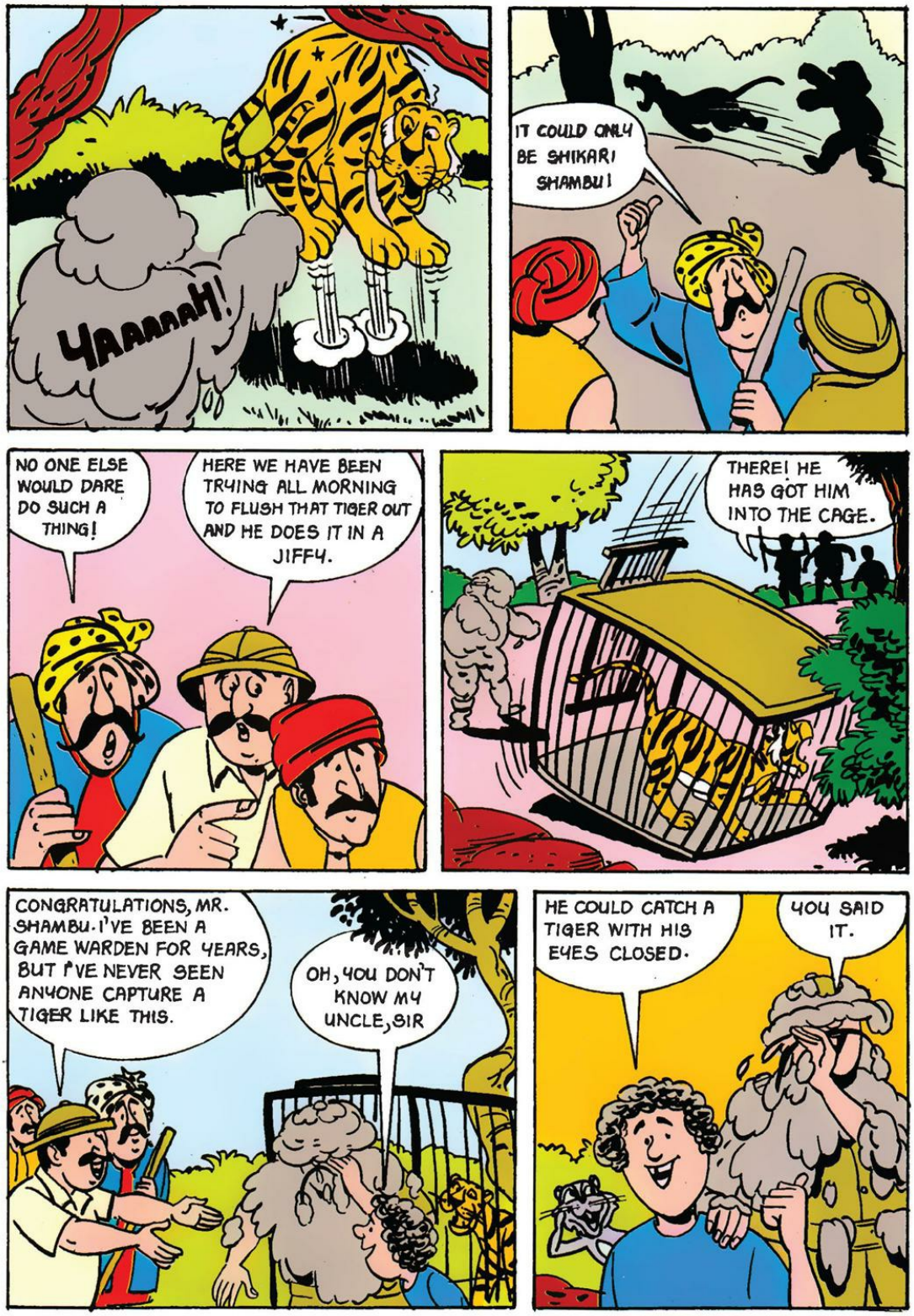
DON'T POINT THAT GUN AT ME... OOOOH!
HE HAS FAINTED!
I WILL GET SOME WATER!
WAIT. I'LL ASK MY FRIEND IF IT'S ALL RIGHT FOR YOU TO GO.
HEY, TIGER!
TIGER! YEEEEEOOW!!
BANG!
MR. SHAMBU IS FIGHTING THEM! LET'S HELP HIM!

HEY!
MEANWHILE IN THE COCKPIT —
ALL'S NOT WELL OUTSIDE! I'D BETTER GO AND SEE!
AAAAAH!
CATCH HIM. HE IS WITHOUT HIS GUN.
SOON —
MR. SHAMBU! YOU ARE A MARVEL.
I WANT YOUR AUTOGRAPH.
CERTAINLY.
AAAAAAH!

Shikari Shambu
The Monster!
SO THERE YOU ARE! HOW LONG WILL YOU SLEEP?
THE WINDOWS HAVE TO BE PAINTED... THE GARDEN HAS TO BE WEEDED...
THE ATTIC HAS TO BE CLEARED...
... THE ROOF HAS TO BE REPAIRED...
WHERE ARE YOU GOING, UNCLE?
TO THE JUNGLE
THAT'S THE ONLY PLACE A MAN CAN GET SOME PEACE AND QUIET.
BUT DON'T TELL YOUR AUNT WHERE I AM.
THIS IS THE LIFE... A SHADY TREE, BIRDS SINGING IN THE BUSHES...

... LEAVES RUSTLING IN THE BREEZE AND...
GROW-WWL! GROW-WWL!
GROW-WWL! GROW WWL!
OH-OH, THAT'S A NASTY SOUND!
I- IT MUST BE THE TIGER THAT THE VILLAGERS ARE AFTER.
THEY SAY IT IS A MAN-EATER!
GROW-LLLL!
WHAT?!
IT'S MY NEPHEW. MY WIFE MUST'VE SENT HIM TO LOOK FOR ME AND THE SILLY BOY IS TRYING TO FRIGHTEN ME WITH HIS ANIMAL CALLS.

AS IF I COULD BE SO EASILY FOOLED.
I'LL CREEP UP BEHIND HIM AND GIVE HIM SUCH A FRIGHT, HE'LL NEVER PLAY SUCH TRICKS AGAIN!
GROWW-LLLL!
THERE HE IS.
YOU CAN'T FRIGHTEN ME, YOU MANGY CREATURE! HERE I COME...
...OOPS!
SPLASH!
I CAN'T SEE YOU WITH ALL THIS MUD IN MY EYES... BUT IT DOESN'T MATTER. I'M COMING FOR YOU!


YAAAAAH!
IT COULD ONLY BE SHIKARI SHAMBU!
NO ONE ELSE WOULD DARE DO SUCH A THING!
HERE WE HAVE BEEN TRYING ALL MORNING TO FLUSH THAT TIGER OUT AND HE DOES IT IN A JIFFY.
THERE! HE HAS GOT HIM INTO THE CAGE.
CONGRATULATIONS, MR. SHAMBU. I'VE BEEN A GAME WARDEN FOR YEARS, BUT I'VE NEVER SEEN ANYONE CAPTURE A TIGER LIKE THIS.
OH, YOU DON'T KNOW MY UNCLE, SIR
HE COULD CATCH A TIGER WITH HIS EYES CLOSED.
YOU SAID IT.

"IT" HAPPENED TO ME....

A few years ago, we enacted a play based on the story of William Tell for our school's annual day function. I was given the role of Tell. The rehearsals progressed swiftly but we had a problem with the scene in which William Tell shoots an arrow and pierces the apple kept on his son's head.

We solved it by using an almost invisible thread, one end of which ran through an already cut apple, and the other through the hollow shaft of the arrow.

The idea worked well at the rehearsals. But on the big day it was a flop. I released the arrow without fully drawing back the bowstring.

The result was that the arrow went only half-way along the thread and stopped in the middle.

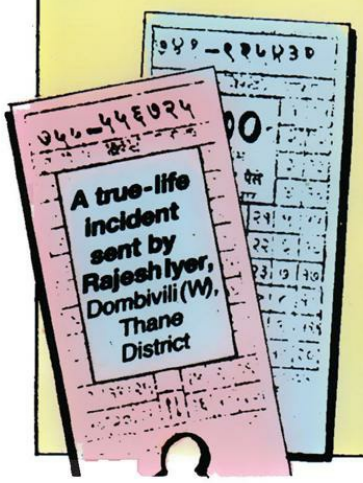
I felt so embarassed that I ran out from the stage, throwing away my bow and arrows, to the accompaniment of loud laughter from the audience.

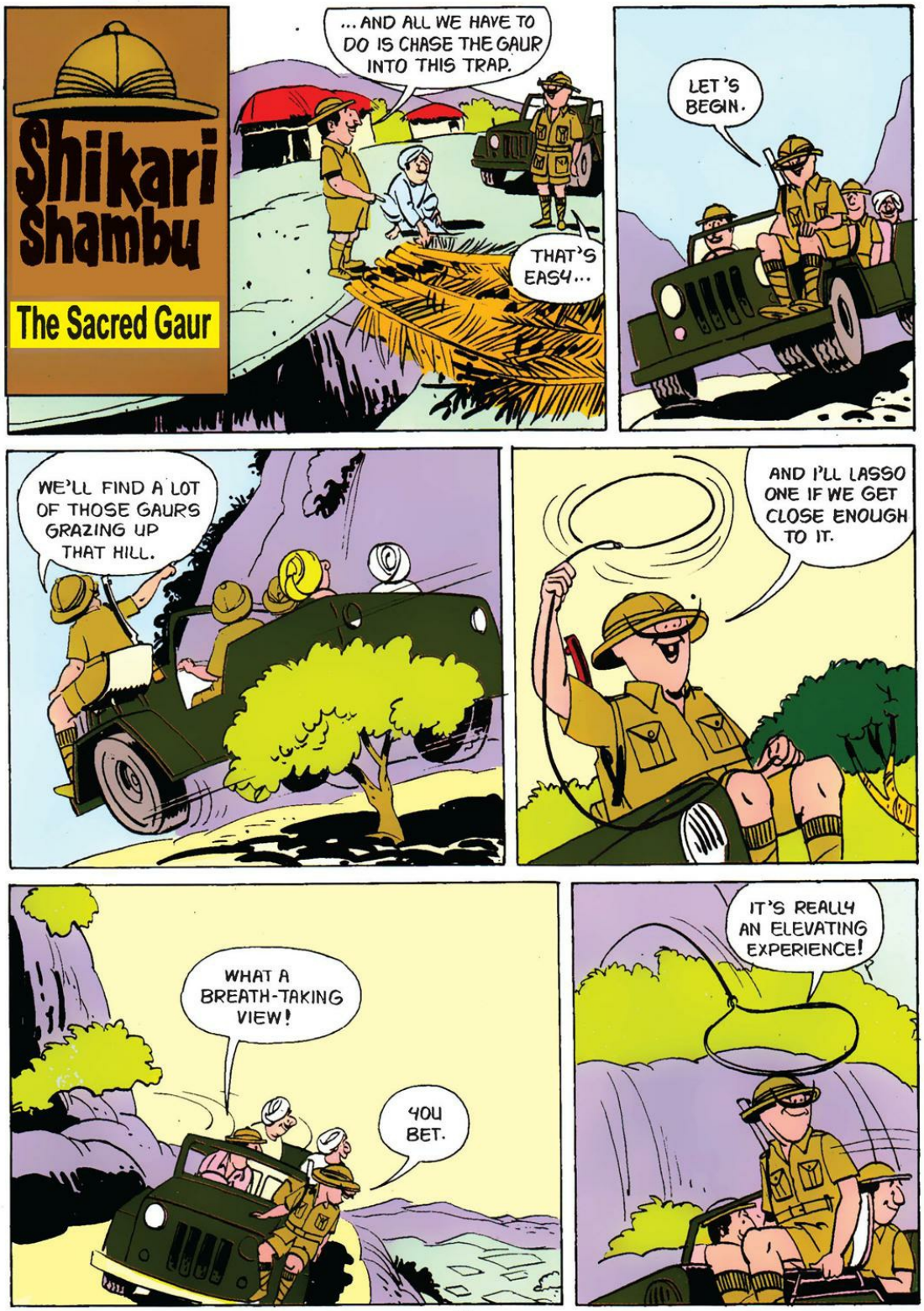
A true-life incident sent by
Waseem Jamadar,
1st Citadelle, L.B.S. Marg, Kurla, Mumbai 400 070

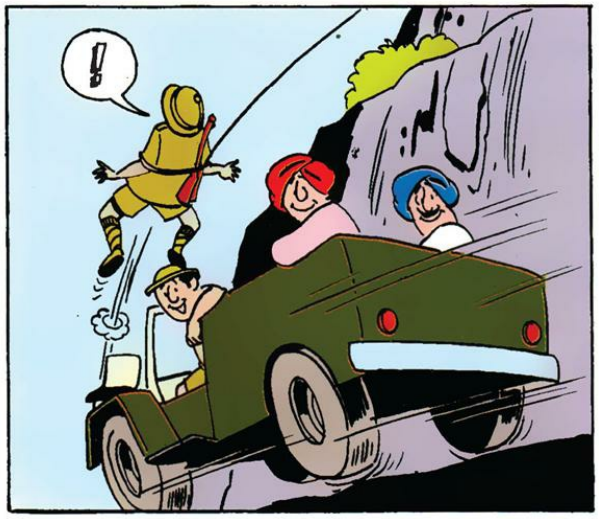
One day when I was going to school by bus, I saw the conductor scolding a passenger because he couldn't pay for his ticket. He stopped the bus and asked the passenger to get out. I laughed loudly at the man's plight.

Just then, a man in his forties sitting beside me got up and bought the poor passenger his ticket. As the bus drove on he rebuked me for laughing, but I did not heed his words.

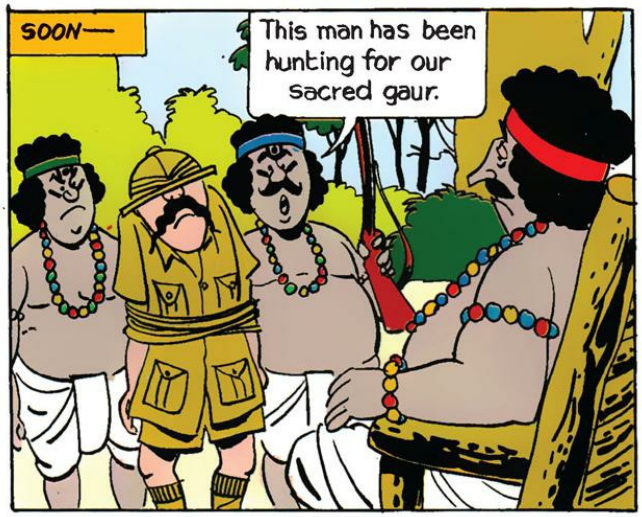
Soon I was in my class and it was the English period. Our new teacher walked in. I stared in horror for it was the same man who had sat beside me in the bus, and bought the poor man his ticket. When he came in he looked at me and gave me a broad smile. I heaved a sigh of relief. After this incident, I resolved that I would never laugh at the misfortune of others.




Shikari Shambu
The Sacred Gaur
... AND ALL WE HAVE TO DO IS CHASE THE GAUR INTO THIS TRAP.
THAT'S EASY...
LET'S BEGIN.
WE'LL FIND A LOT OF THOSE GAURS GRAZING UP THAT HILL.
AND I'LL LASSO ONE IF WE GET CLOSE ENOUGH TO IT.
WHAT A BREATH-TAKING VIEW!
YOU BET.
IT'S REALLY AN ELEVATING EXPERIENCE!

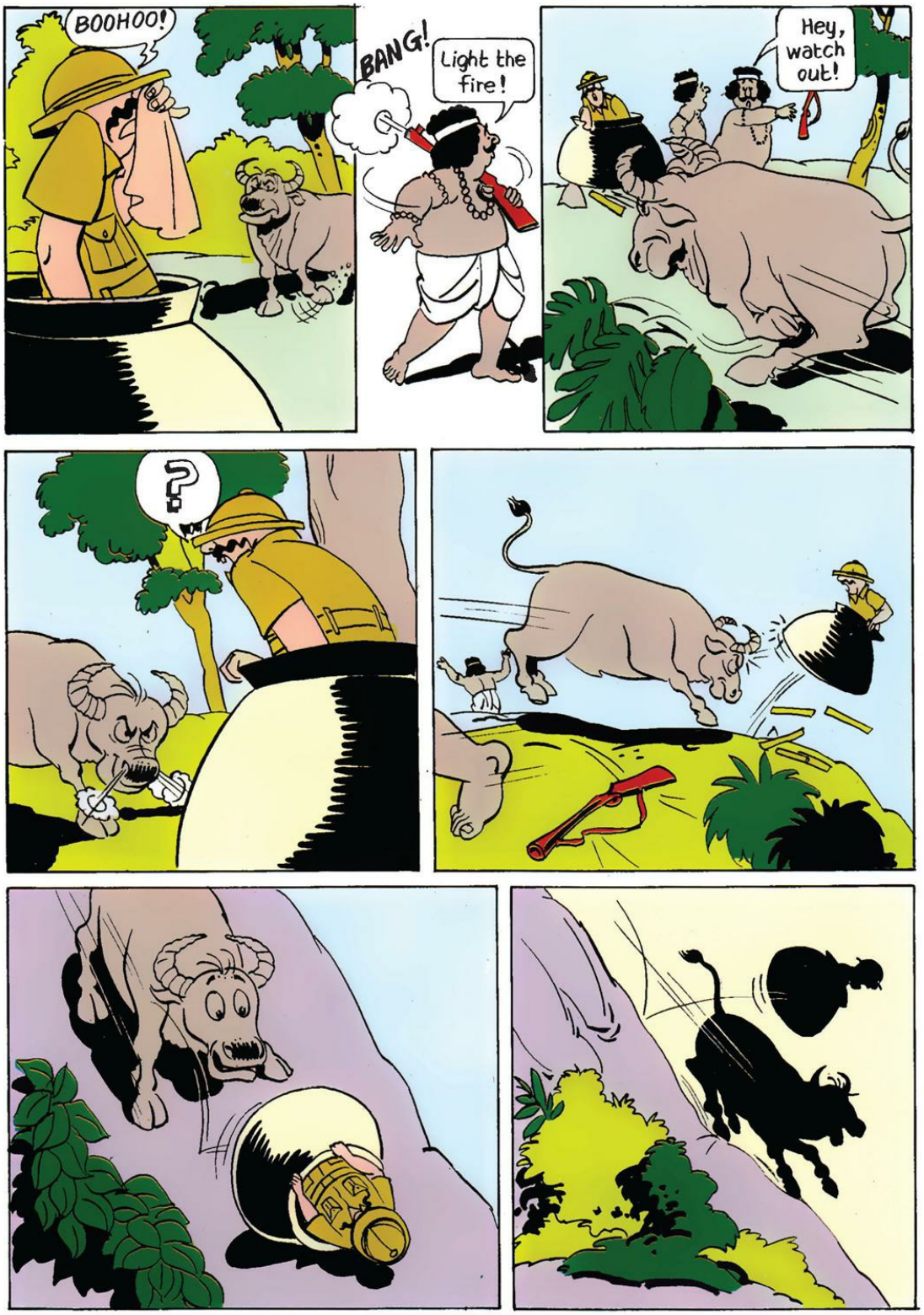

!

H—HEY! WHERE'S SHAMBU?
HE...HE JUST VANISHED!!


SOON—
This man has been hunting for our sacred gaur.

What do we do with him?
Cook him!

UH...TH,..THIS LOOKS LIKE THE END OF THE ROAD FOR ME.


BOOHOO!
BANG!
Light the fire!
Hey, watch out!
?

BANG!
CLANG!
WHAT WAS THAT NOISE?
LET'S GO AND SEE.
HEY, A GAUR JUST WALKED INTO OUR TRAP.
BUT WHAT'S THAT VESSEL DOING THERE?
SH... SHAMBU!
WHERE'D YOU DISAPPEAR?
WELL...ER...I THOUGHT I COULD WORK FASTER ALONE...SO I'VE GOT YOU THIS GAUR ALL BY MYSELF!

Shikari Shambu
Money Tree
THERE'S A MAN-EATING TIGER ON THE PROWL! THERE'S A REWARD OF 5000 RUPEES ON HIS HEAD!
NEWS
EH?
WHERE'S HE GONE?
THERE HE GOES!
HER NEXT SENTENCE WOULD'VE BEEN: "GO AND GET HIM"
SHE THINKS CAPTURING A TIGER IS AS EASY AS PICKING UP A PUSSYCAT.
ROOAR
THE T-TIGER!

HELP!
I'LL GET INTO THIS HOLLOW!
I THINK HE'S GONE!
GOOD HEAVENS! I CAN'T GET OUT! I'M STUCK!
MEANWHILE—
I HOPE NOBODY HAS FOUND OUR MONEY.
DON'T WORRY.
IT'S SAFER THAN IT WAS IN THE BANK WE ROBBED IT FROM... HA HA HA
THERE'S THE TREE IN WHICH I'VE HIDDEN IT.
LET'S TAKE IT OUT QUICKLY AND GO!

DID YOU HEAR THAT?
WHAT?!
I THOUGHT I HEARD SOMEBODY GROAN!
YOU'RE IMAGINING THINGS!
WHO IS THAT!
WHO SAID THAT?
HELP ME OUT.
I-I THINK IT'S A GHOST TRYING TO GET OUT!
G-G GHOST!
RUN!
WAIT! COME BACK!
GET ME OUT OF HERE.
THERE'S A MAN IN THERE.

WHY IT'S SHAMBU SAHEB!
THANK YOU...
... HEY WHAT'S THIS ?
MONEY!
THERE'S MORE INSIDE.
IT MUST BE FROM THE BANK. TWO MEN ROBBED THE BANK YESTERDAY.
THE NEXT DAY SHIKARI SHAMBU HAS MADE HEADLINES —
NOTED ADVENTURER FINDS BANK LOOT!
NEWS
WHAT I LIKED BEST ABOUT THIS ADVENTURE...
... IS THIS CHEQUE FOR RS. 5000 WHICH THEY GAVE ME AS REWARD!
NOW I DON'T HAVE TO GO HUNTING FOR THE ...
ROOARRR!
... TIGER!

THE ADVENTURES OF SHIKARI SHAMBU 2

Shikari Shambu is everything he doesn't appear to be. Although known as Shikari, he is a conservationist and a wildlife expert. But Shambu is no brave heart. He is secretly terrified of animals and has no love for adventure. But trouble always finds its way to Shambu and luck finds him a way out.

With this Collection, laugh out loud as Shambu is chased by tigers, leopards, bears and more. He also finds himself in the middle of a hijacking, a kidnapping and even a nature walk that goes hilariously wrong! That's not all... Shambu is even desperate enough to wade through swamps, hide in the hollow trunk of trees and dive into oil drums among several other ridiculous tactics to avoid coming face-to-face with animals.

Also included in this delightful Collection are beautiful and informative features on many of our furry friends, from gibbons to rhinos and more.

Did you know: Shikari Shambu was created by Luis Fernandes, former Editor of *Tinkle*, and fleshed out with his signature hat and moustache by ace illustrator V. B. Halbe. Shambu is currently in the hands of Art Director, Savio Mascarenhas.

Keep the madness alive with other titles from Shambu as well as the rest of the books from the *Tinkle* Collections series.